

CHINA AND PACIFIC CRISIS

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SERIOUS VIEW TAKEN
OF FAR EAST OUTLOOKURGENT
ADVICE
TO LEAVE

Americans had been advised to leave the Far East, according to Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State.

Speaking in Washington yesterday Mr. Hull said United States consular officers warned United States citizens in Far Eastern countries to evacuate as a precautionary measure in view of the disturbed conditions.

THE STATEMENT FOLLOWED THE PUBLICATION OF DESPATCHES FROM TOKYO AND SHANGHAI SAYING THAT ALL WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND MEN ABLE TO DO SO HAD BEEN URGENTLY ADVISED TO LEAVE.—REUTER.

Stout
Italian
Defence

The Italians are putting up stout resistance round Keren, strategical town 60 miles north-west of Asmara, in Eritrea.

The fighting is very tough and over difficult ground.

The British advance is progressing towards Arreza, which lies 30 miles south-west of Asmara.

Here the country is also difficult and the retreating Italians have been obliged to jettison much of their equipment.

The advance east of Lake Rudolf, in Abyssinia, is also progressing satisfactorily.

Patrol actions only are reported from other fronts.—REUTER.

AID BRITAIN
BILL LITTLE
CHANGED

THE MEASURE PASSED BY THE SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REGARDING THE LEASE AND LEND BILL IS SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME AS THAT PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A proposal to restrict presidential authority under the Bill to send armed forces out of the Western Hemisphere was rejected

But Moment Of
Crisis Held Not
To Be Immediate

(By Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent)

A SERIOUS VIEW is taken in London of the position in the Pacific, especially after the Australian Ministers' warning of the situation in the Far East.

Australian reaction to the warning of serious developments has given much satisfaction in London, while the American attitude is also all to the good.

In Allied circles in London which are usually well-informed it is felt that the moment of crisis is not immediate.

It is pointed out that in view of the fact that negotiations between Indo-China and Thailand are proceeding and the armistice has just been prolonged another fortnight, it is unlikely Japan would take any immediate action.

Also, although there has been talk of negotiations with Russia, Japan has not yet reached any agreement that would guarantee her rear if she were to undertake any adventurous operation to the south.—REUTER.

Danger Admitted In
London

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") That there is a danger that Japan may intervene on the side of Germany and Italy was admitted yesterday by authoritative quarters in London.

Informed circles in London say that the Japanese Foreign Minister's speeches in public and in private during the last three or four days have been "tougher."

There is every sign that Japanese extremists are taking control of Government affairs in Tokyo.

Meanwhile, the British Government has left Japan no doubt of her attitude and reminded her of the fate which has overtaken the countries under German pressure.

British quarters in London still hope that liberal influences will prevent Japan from taking such a step.—International News Service.

GUNS DRAWN
IN CHAMBER

REVOLVERS WERE BRANDISHED IN AN EXTENDED SESSION OF THE ARGENTINE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IN BUENOS AIRES YESTERDAY.

A Conservative deputy named Rocha and a Radical, da Monte, interrupted the debate by a lively exchange of blows. They had drawn their guns before they could be separated.—REUTER.

WILLKIE
KNOX "CLASH"
UNIMPORTANT

There is no controversy between President Roosevelt and Colonel Frank Knox, Secretary of Navy, or Mr. Wendell Willkie on the question of turning over more destroyers to Britain; declares an announcement issued from the White House last night.—REUTER.

Civilian
Peril In
Ethiopia

The evacuation of civilians from Abyssinia is considered as a likely subject to have been discussed between Mussolini and General Franco, according to the Vichy correspondent of the "Gazette de Lausanne" yesterday.

This question, involving as it does the utilisation of the Addis-Ababa-Djibouti railway, which has its terminus in French Somaliland, also concerns France.

This is regarded by the correspondent as sufficient to explain the meeting between Marshal Petain and General Franco.

Political observers in Zurich incline to the view that Mussolini probably sounded General Franco as to what help he would be able to afford Italy.—REUTER.

by the Committee.

The Senate debate will begin on Monday, and it is hoped to restrict it to a fortnight.—REUTER.

FALL OF
TEPELINI
IMMINENT

The fall of Tepelini — strategic Albanian town 30 miles south-east of Valona — is expected at any moment following a further strengthening of the Greek encircling movement, cables Reuter's special correspondent on the Albanian frontier.

There is heavy Greek artillery fire on this sector.

Fighting in the Skumbi and Devoli River valleys has been more violent but Italian resistance to Greek pressure is very strong.

Near Podgradetz, on the eastern front, the Greeks have advanced over a mile with artillery support.—REUTER.

of Home Security communique last night said: "A few enemy aircraft, for the most part flying singly, have crossed our coasts during daylight to-day."

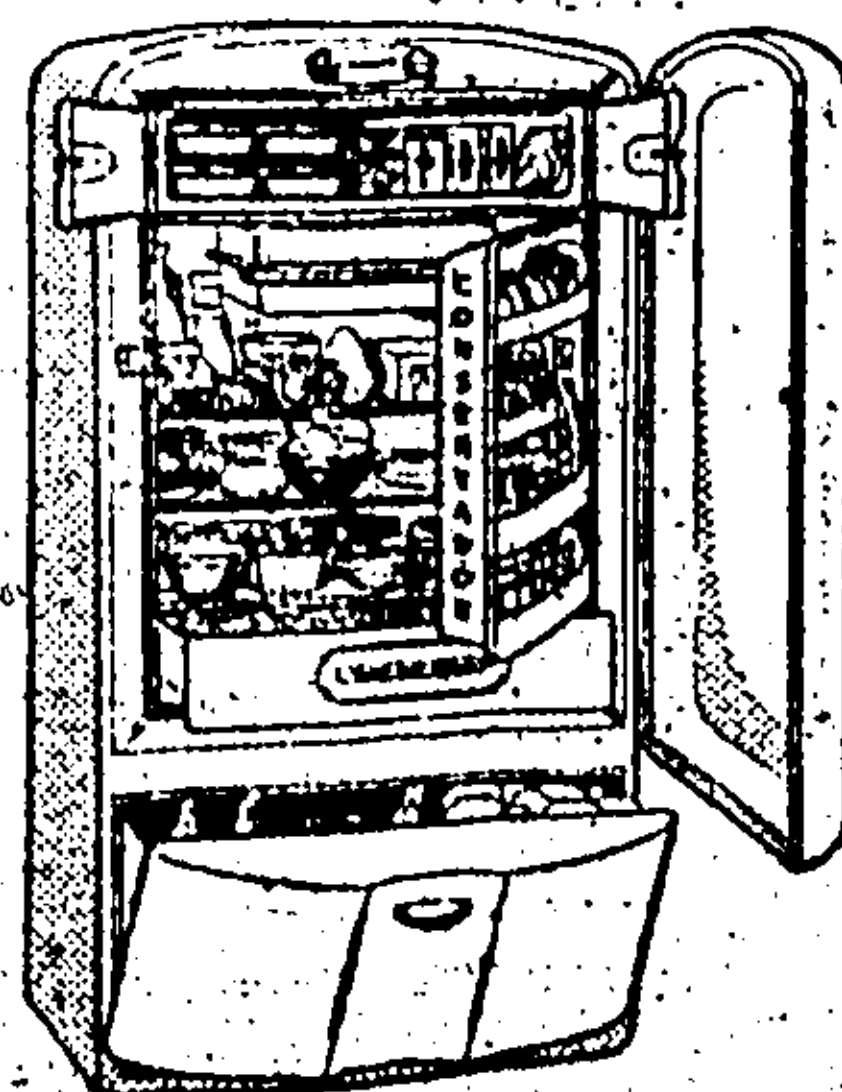
"Bombs were dropped at points in East Anglia and north Scotland. Damage caused was slight and casualties were very few."—REUTER.

LONDON
GET EARLY
WARNING

London had a short alert after dark last night, the first to be heard at such an early hour for several nights.

An enemy plane which attacked the Dover balloon barrage yesterday was badly damaged by a Spitfire, with smoke pouring out. An Air Ministry and Ministry

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Secret Behind Wavell Triumphs In Libya War

ATTACKS ON RHODES CONTINUE

The R.A.F. offensive against the island of Rhodes continued on Tuesday night, when Maritza and Calato were raided with success.

Fires were started at Maritza and petrol dumps at Calato were destroyed. At least seven enemy aircraft grounded on the Calato aerodrome were destroyed.

The R.A.F. was also active in the Keren area of Eritrea, where military objectives suffered several direct hits.

The South African Air Force was also in action. Transports were attacked and set on fire. All our aircraft returned safely from these operations. — Reuter.

ALFONSO RENOUNCES RIGHTS

A document signed by ex-King Alfonso, in which he offers to renounce all his rights in favour of his son, the Infante Juan, was published yesterday in Spanish text by the Lisbon newspaper "Voz."

The document is dated from Rome, January 14, 1941. — Reuter.

More Soviet Radio.—According to the Soviet Radio the Moscow-Leningrad broadcasting system will be considerably extended and a number of new stations created.

Brilliant Work By Picked Men For Desert Sabotage

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent with the British and Imperial Forces in Libya)

THE REMARKABLE STORY CAN NOW BE TOLD OF HOW, FOLLOWING ITALY'S ENTRY INTO THE WAR, A SMALL FORCE OF PICKED NEW ZEALAND AND BRITISH TROOPS COVERED THOUSANDS OF MILES THROUGH THE DESERTS OF SOUTHERN LIBYA PROBING THE SECRETS OF ITALY'S DEFENCES AND SABOTAGING HER PREPARATIONS.

BRITISH MISSION RETURNING

Great cordiality and evident friendship marked the stay in Caracas, Venezuela, of the British economic mission to South America, which leaves for England to-morrow. — Reuter.

Known as the "Long Range Desert Group" the force was comprised of picked officers and men from New Zealand and the British Royal Armoured Corps.

It was commanded by a lieutenant-colonel famed as an explorer in the Libyan desert who was formerly a British official in the Egyptian Survey Department and a member of the Palestine Department of Antiquities.

The force journeyed thousands of miles through the southern Libyan deserts, carrying its own supplies, pirating enemy transport, shelling and capturing isolated forts, blowing up dumps and burning grounded aircraft.

Operations were conducted over a radius of over 700 miles south of the Oases of Siwa and Jerrabub and most valuable information was obtained.

After Italy's declaration of war the presence at Kufra of enemy troops and aircraft in unknown numbers was very disturbing to the authorities.

Distinct Threat

They were also known to possess a number of motorised units constructed for desert work and capable of carrying out well executed desert operations. There therefore existed a distinct threat to Upper Egypt by land and air.

It was imperative to find out the secrets lying behind the great sand barrier protecting Lufra and so the vanguard of the Long Range Desert Group set out, defying the sea of sand and the sweltering heat of the August sun.

The vanguard, consisting of a British officer and five New Zealanders in two light cars, crossed the sandy waste—some 800 miles long and an average of 150 miles wide—and struck westwards 200 miles behind the Kufra-Benghazi frontier.

Pave The Way

After days in the desert studying wheelmarks and extracting a wealth of information by other means, the vanguard returned having paved the way for further expeditions.

The same barrier was then crossed for the first time by the Long Range Desert Group, and three columns of loaded trucks crawled 200 miles through the sand-waves.

The New Zealanders, unaccustomed to the desert, soon adapted themselves to conditions.

One truck fell over the brink of a sand dune and rolled 100 feet without being damaged. Hot winds blow a blanket of sand over the convoy.

Bags Of Documents

Patrols separated, each setting off on a 1,000-mile reconnaissance in different parts of enemy territory.

Nothing was heard from them by General Headquarters for a month. Then three bands of bearded, unwashed but exultant "ruffians" appeared in Cairo with a batch of Italian prisoners and bags of captured documents.

One patrol examined all roads leading to Kufra, penetrated 350 miles into Libya and held up columns of enemy lorries in the best highwayman style.

Official Mail

The haul included official mail for Kufra, containing enough information to reveal all the enemy's dispositions in the inner desert area.

A second party crossed the desert south-west of Kufra and travelled along the ancient caravan routes, making contact with Free French outposts in Chad Territory.

A third patrol visited the lonely mountain of Use Inanil Uweinat, and found and destroyed an enemy bomber and a large dump of petrol and bombs.—Reuter.

BORROWED TRAM IN RAID

A passenger who attempted to drive a tramcar during an air raid on a West Midlands town after the rest of the passengers had gone to shelter, was fined 40s. and 25s. costs for interfering with the controls of the car.

Prosecuting counsel said the authorities took a serious view of the case.

The car, he said, was stopped near a depot and a second car had pulled up ten or twelve yards behind it.

The passenger left the second car and, boarding the first tried to drive it.

The controls were in reverse, and he crashed into the car behind.

His excuse was that he wanted to get home.

Actor's Affairs.—A receiving order has been made on the petition of a money-lender against Mr. Stanley James Warmington, the radio actor, who for some years appeared as "Inspector Hornleigh Investigator."

Lord Roche's Appointment.—Lord Roche, formerly a Lord of Appeal, is to be chairman of the Agricultural Wages Board, in succession to Viscount Ullawater, who has resigned on account of age.

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CHINA AND PACIFIC CRISIS

May Be Able To Lend Effective Aid To Britain

Issue Under Discussion In Chungking

CHINA'S PART IN possible further developments in the Pacific is being so eagerly discussed in Chungking as to push the China War into the background.

It is realised that the future of the world now depends on whether Britain can hold out in Europe against the German onslaught and whether the combined British and United States forces in the Far East can defeat any eventual Japanese drive in the southern Pacific.

The report that fresh evacuation advice has been given to United States citizens in the Far East has attracted much attention in Chungking.

Prominence has also been given to the statement made by President Roosevelt on Tuesday to the effect that if the United States were forced into war in the Pacific it would not mean curtailment of war supplies to Britain and added that he thought there was no danger of the United States getting into war.

London cables mentioning the possibility of a Japanese move in the Pacific to support a German attack in Europe are also being discussed in Chungking.

Nazi Activity

These developments tend to confirm information reaching Chinese headquarters in Chungking that Germany has been very active in the last three weeks urging Japan to move in the Pacific against Britain and the United States, also that Japan has agreed to support Germany.

Many Chinese quarters consider China will not remain idle if Japan attacks in the southern Pacific, since China can effectively aid Britain in the defence of Burma and Singapore, either by sending troops into Burma and Malaya or by launching a counter-offensive in China.

Indication that the British Ambassador, Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, is unlikely to leave Chungking in the immediate future is seen in Lady Kerr's arrival in the Chinese capital from Hong Kong yesterday morning by plane.

THE AMBASSADOR WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO LEAVE THIS WEEK BY AIR FOR HONG KONG TO JOIN LADY KERR.—REUTER.

COST OF COVERING THE WAR

A COMPLAINT MADE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EMPIRE PRESS UNION THAT "MESSAGES FROM EGYPT ABOUT THE GLORIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ARMY OF THE NILE HAVE BEEN COSTING ABOUT THREE TIMES AS MUCH AS THEY WOULD BETWEEN TWO PARTS OF THE EMPIRE" WAS UNDERLINED IN AN EDITORIAL IN THE "YOKSHING POST" YESTERDAY.

The newspaper says: "It would be an advantage to the Empire press and Empire readers if Government could persuade Egypt to adopt the Empire flat rate of 2½d a word for press messages sent outside that country."

Reference was also made at the meeting to the handicaps of the press censorship which delayed vital news and gave an advantage to broadcasting.—REUTER.

SLACK DAY ON STOCK EXCHANGE

The London Stock Exchange yesterday was dull with very small business pending Balkan developments but there was no selling. Gilt-edged were inclined to be heavy, while Indian bonds met with profit-taking. Industrial eased on some provincial selling. Oils also tended lower while Kafirs were barely steady. Japanese bonds receded 30.—Wall Street was quiet.—REUTER.

HIRE MEN ON INSTALMENT SUGGESTS M.P.

THE GOVERNMENT is to be asked to subsidise wages after the war so that employers may hire workers on a kind of instalment system spread over three years.

Mr. W. Craven-Ellis, Conservative M.P. for Southampton, is the author of this three-year plan. He proposes that it should apply to workers who have exhausted their unemployment benefit, including men demobilised from the Forces.

If the level of unemployment in an industry exceeds three per cent. over a period of three months, he says, the Government should continue to pay the unemployment allowance and the employer should make up the worker's wage to the standard rate.

And here's where the "instalment idea comes in:—

"At the end of two years the Government's contribution shall be reduced by one-twelfth for each month during the third year, until at the end of the three-year plan industry will be responsible for the full standard wage."

Mr. Craven-Ellis considers this will avoid abnormal unemployment after the war in all or selected industries.

His motion, to go before the House of Commons, declares that "a fuller employment of the people will result in the creation of greater wealth and purchasing power. General industry will benefit and therefore a condition of the three-year plan should be that it will end immediately if unemployment falls below 3 per cent. for six months."

Mrs. Vijalakshmi Pandit, a sister of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Congress leader, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment under Defence of India Regulations.

U.S. AND BRITISH SEA ACTION

U.S. administration officials are assembling data and consulting with Latin American Governments with a view to forwarding protests to London against the violation of the so-called Pan-American security zone by the British cruiser which intercepted the blockade-running Nazi freighter Idarwald.

Yet these same officials as private individuals have nothing but praise for the action and welcome it as a contribution towards the victory of Britain, which they ardently desire. The overwhelming feeling of the American public is also one of gratification. The greater the success the British have in tracking down Nazi raiders wherever operating the better is the public pleased.

In these circumstances it would not be surprising were the whole complex and illogical American attitude towards neutral rights at sea be re-examined. In the waters around Europe the United States, in accordance with the principles of the Neutrality Act, has in effect yielded in advance to German intimidation by giving up rights to which it is entitled under international law and withdrawing all ships from the danger zone to save them from the perils of the German mine and submarine.

In the waters of the Western Hemisphere, on the other hand, the United States has, together with other American republics, claimed a right for which no basis can be found in international law. Only in the waters lying between these two zones does the United States rest her policy on international law.

YOUTHS OF NINETEEN TO REGISTER

Youths of 19 and just over, born between January 1 and December 31, 1921, are to register for military service on Saturday, February 22.

This will be the first registration under the Proclamation of January 29, extending the age limit to men who had then reached the age of 18 but had not reached 41.—REUTER.

CUBA BANS AXIS PROPAGANDA

Regulations prohibiting the dissemination of totalitarian propaganda of any kind by the press, radio, films or through the post, were approved by the Cuban Cabinet in Havana yesterday, says REUTER.

U.S. Gives 6,000 Stoves.—The American Red Cross has given 3,000 heating and 3,000 cooking stoves for use in emergency hospitals, rest centres, first aid posts, and army medical units.

OSUMI INCIDENT DENIAL

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE CLAIM MADE BY THE CHUNGKING AUTHORITIES THAT THE JAPANESE AIR LINER CARRYING THE LATE ADMIRAL BARON OSUMI AND FIVE OTHER JAPANESE NAVAL OFFICERS WAS SHOT DOWN BY CHINESE GUERRILLAS, WAS RIDICULED BY THE SPOKESMAN OF THE JAPANESE SOUTH CHINA SEAS FLEET IN CANTON YESTERDAY.

The spokesman pointed out that Chungking made the announcement of the alleged successful attack on February 8 several hours after the Japanese Navy Ministry announced, at noon on that day, that the plane had crashed on February 7.

The spokesman contended that the commander of the guerrillas who was credited with shooting down the air liner was in Macao with his staff.—REUTER Special.

TURKISH DEAL WITH RUMANIANS

Turkey is to receive 160,000 tons of petroleum from Rumania under an agreement just concluded between the two countries, according to an Istanbul despatch to the German news agency yesterday.—REUTER.

Congratulations to Etón.—Pennsylvania University, celebrating its 200th anniversary, has sent congratulations to Etón College, which reached its 500th birthday last week.

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BRITISH CONTROL OF MEDITERRANEAN

THE BOMBARDMENT of Genoa shows that the British Fleet continues to dominate the Mediterranean and the Italian African armies are virtually separated from Italy, writes the military correspondent of the Swiss newspaper "La Suisse."

The "National Zeitung" of Berne says that the speed with which General Wavell's on-storming Empire troops reached and captured Benghazi has not only surprised laymen.

The performance of the British troops and High Command calls for the respect of all unprejudiced observers.

Whether the course of the African campaign is of importance for the final decision or whether the British advance continues, the widespread rumour that England is an old country and the home of an old people without power to live or resist is after all only a rumour.

The way the English have borne terrible bombing attacks without weakening or crying for the world's recognition has destroyed this rumour.

Not many of the so-called young peoples could have achieved this record of sang froid and nervous endurance. — Reuter.

QUICKSILVER POISON CASE SETTLED

Yang Wong-sz, 30-year-old amah who has been attending court since last December on a charge of attempting to poison her Formosan mistress by feeding her quicksilver, was acquitted in the First Special District Court last week when it was found through a chemical analysis that the poison used was not fatal to life.

On December 10, 1940, the amah was sent into the custody of the police by her mistress who discovered silvery particles in the fried eggs which she ate and was about to feed to her two-year-old son. Later, the amah confessed that the quicksilver powder had been scraped off the back of a mirror.

Taken to the Foo Ming Hospital, a medical examination revealed that the Formosan woman suffered only slight poisoning.

3,985 INTERNEES FREED IN ENGLAND

Three thousand eight hundred and ninety-one internees have been released temporarily or permanently on medical grounds, and sixty-nine doctors and dentists, and twenty-five employers engaged in work certified by a Government department to be of value to the community, also have been freed.

More Army Greatcoats. — Contracts for 1,500,000 more Army greatcoats have been placed. More than 70 firms will cut up 7,000,000 yards of the heavy cloth which Yorkshire produces specially for the Army.

German technicians have arrived at the aerodrome of Bron, near Lyons, in non-occupied France, for the construction of a meteorological station, states a Lyons report.

MAGIC STUDIO

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SOMEONE SHOULD HANG

"Hang a looter" was the advice given to the authorities by a newspaper recently as the best means of stamping out this beastly crime against air raid victims.

One of the worst cases of looting was being investigated by a London council. It occurred in a block of shopping and residential property.

When the evacuated people returned they found that their shops had been cleared out of everything that could be taken away.

A hairdresser lost his entire stock. Houses had even the tea and sugar rations, suits of clothes and other personal belongings stolen.

Live chickens from the back yards were also taken.

LADY (AUSTEN) CHAMBERLAIN PASSES

The death was announced in London yesterday of Lady Chamberlain, widow of Sir Austen Chamberlain, former Foreign Secretary and half-brother of the late Mr. Neville Chamberlain.

Lady Chamberlain passed away after a short illness. — Reuter.

Germans Execute Frenchman. — Sentenced to death by a German court-martial for "committing an act of violence against a member of the German Armed Forces," a French wine merchant was shot in Bordeaux.

Hospital Matrons for Shelters. — The Ministry of Health has appointed two hospital matrons to help to supervise the nursing services in London shelters.

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MEN'S WORK DEMANDED

Women should control the nation's food supplies and prices, and should be responsible for air raid shelters and evacuation.

Those demands are made by Mrs. Marion Coates Hansen, of Middlesbrough, who was a lieutenant of Sylvia and Christabel Pankhurst in the suffragette movement thirty years ago.

"It is true, the W.V.S. are doing a lot of work and doing it splendidly, but women are being used only to carry out the often badly planned ideas of the men."

"Women have brains, yet they ask us to knit. If I had my way I would organise machines for knitting, and use the hands and the brains of women to better purpose."

Mrs. Hansen wants every housewife to have a wage of at least 10s. or 15s. a week which must not be used for housekeeping.

Mrs. Coates Hansen is an active partner in her husband's business. "I sell cranes, chains, piston rings, and they tell me I am something of an expert on waterproofing shelters," she said.

"To do my two jobs as a housewife and a business woman, I have to get up at six o'clock."

"Oh, yes," she added, "I get a wage as a housewife, and I jolly well earn it."

VICAR LEADS SCHOOL REVOLT

LED BY THEIR VICAR, the Rev. J. H. Ward, children of Holy Trinity church school, Wolverhampton, have declared war on the local education authorities, and are deliberately going to school thirty-five minutes late each morning.

"As chairman of the school managers," Mr. Ward said, "I told the education authorities that our school caretaker could not light the fires each morning until 3 o'clock because of the black-out."

"As a war emergency I suggested that the children should go to school at 10 o'clock instead of 9."

"But the authorities opposed this and suggested the schools should be completely blacked-out or that the fires should have asbestos boards over them."

"The children must have warm classrooms to sit in, and I told my congregation in church and the children themselves not to go to school until 9.35 a.m."

"There are 315 pupils. This morning only 100 attended at 9 a.m. Fifty-two of these children are from cottage homes."

HE SAVED HIS LIFE RISKING IT

A sailor aboard a ship which hit an enemy mine owes his life to the fact that he risked death to retrieve from his cabin a letter from his wife and photographs of his children.

While he was collecting his treasures the lifeboat in which he should have taken his place capsized.

The letter - the only one he has received for a year - and the photographs are all that Alfred Ekines, aged fifty-eight, has to remind him of the home he once had in Norway.

"In the last war I was torpedoed twice, but it was different then, for I had a home," he told a reporter.

"Now I do not even know where my wife is. The Germans are in our country."

Ekines's ship was bringing a cargo of food to England when it struck the mine.

Navy To the Rescue

Though the engineroom was quickly under water and they had temporarily to take to the lifeboats, the thirty-one Norwegian sailors on board refused to abandon their ship.

They stayed by her all night and then, aided by British naval men, some of them boarded her again and brought the ship safely to port.

"I cannot face telling my family what has befallen me," said Ekines. "I dare not write, even if I knew where they were."

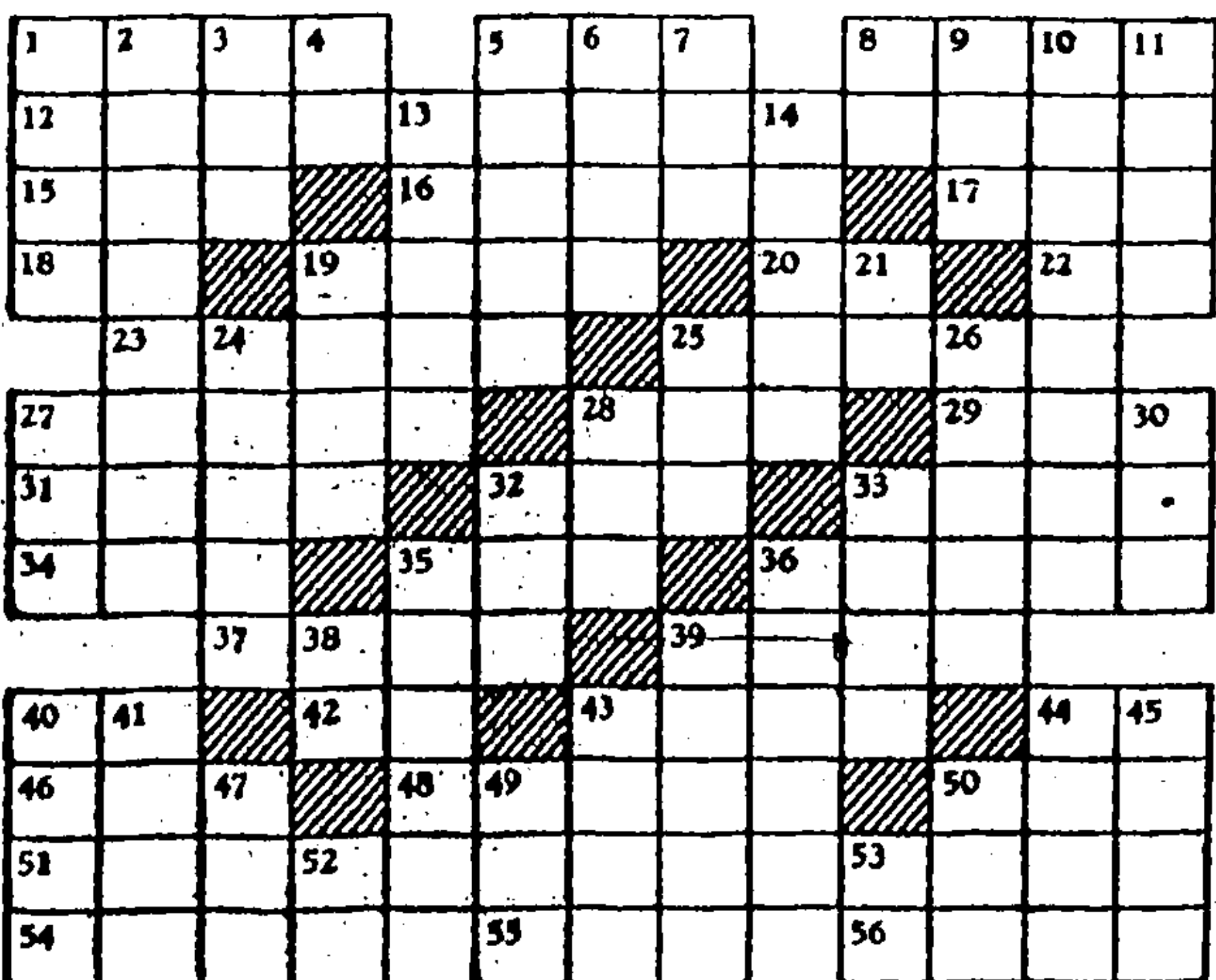
Ekines's greatest friend at the moment is the Rev. Arthur Bowen, one of the Missions to Seamen chaplains, who is busy supplying him with a new outfit before once again he goes to sea to bring in more food for Britain.

NOT GUILTY OF BEACH DEATH

Arthur George Collis, forty-one, a labourer, was found Not Guilty at Lewes (Sussex) Assizes of the manslaughter of James Savage, seventy-seven, at Brighton on August 2.

The prosecution said that Savage had accused Collis of watching girls undressing on the beach; and added: "If I were a younger man I would give you a good thrashing." Collis said that Savage fell in the act of hitting out.

OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



HORIZONTAL

- 1 Auction
- 5 Social insect
- 9 Law; delay
- 12 Inexplicable
- 15 Crude metal
- 16 American frontiersman
- 17 Man's name
- 18 Toward
- 19 Large deer
- 20 Symbol for sodium chloride
- 22 Printer's measure
- 23 Spirit under the control of Solomon
- 25 French goldier
- 27 Employees
- 28 Mongrel
- 29 Philippine savage
- 31 Emmet's
- 32 To make lace
- 33 Dry
- 34 Music as written
- 35 To weaken
- 36 To alter
- 37 College official
- 39 Part of the eye
- 40 Japanese money
- 42 Proposition
- 43 Stepped
- 44 Symbol for oleum

VERTICAL

- 46 Constellation
- 48 Seraglio
- 50 Japanese statesman
- 51 Deduction of conclusions from premises
- 54 Arabian seaport
- 55 Digit
- 56 Unemployed

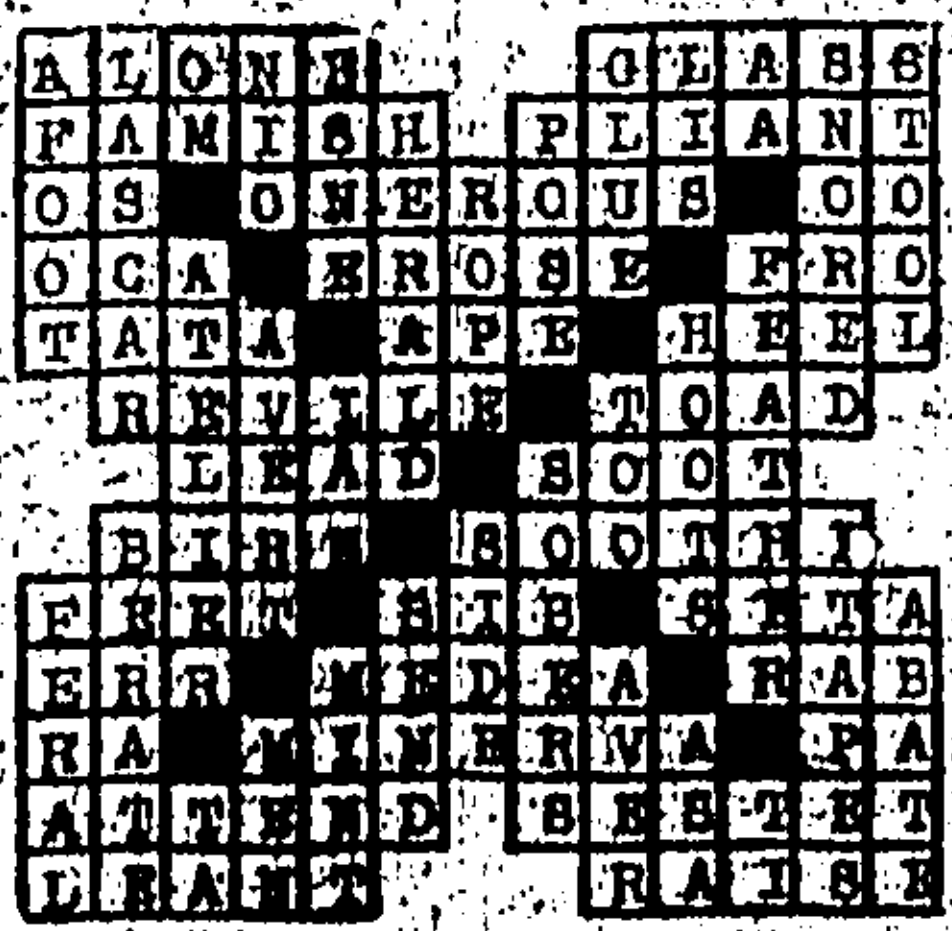
9 Anglo-Saxon money

- 1 Stain
- 2 Haughty
- 3 Confederate general
- 4 French for "and"
- 5 Colloquial: moneyless
- 6 Man's name
- 7 To bring forth
- 8 Greek letter

10 Russian monk

- 11 Turkish regiment
- 13 Chief of the jinn
- 14 Male singing voice
- 19 Football players
- 21 Cloth
- 24 Toward the centre
- 25 To place
- 26 Roman house-hold gods
- 27 Possesses
- 28 Bottle-top
- 30 To append
- 32 Light brown
- 33 Among
- 35 Greek postess
- 36 Scent
- 38 Prefix; good
- 39 Goddess of peace
- 40 Pataconian cavy
- 41 Toward the mouth
- 43 Group of three
- 44 Greek coin
- 45 Smooth
- 47 Consumed
- 48 Deed
- 49 Assistance
- 52 Preposition
- 53 Note of scale

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COMMONS QUESTIONS

CAMP ITALIANS PUNISHED BEAT UP CARTOONIST

MR. G. STRAUSS (Soc.) raised questions regarding conditions at the Palace Internment Camp, Isle of Man.

He alleged that Italian internees were completely under the domination of an aggressive Fascist minority, who appointed themselves to all posts of responsibility, threatened those who had volunteered for the Auxiliary Pioneer Corps, and intimidated those who had not got Fascist sympathies.

He also said that Signor Cosomati, whose anti-Mussolini cartoons had been republished in the English Press, had been severely beaten up by two Fascists.

Mr. Morrison said he regretted that it was the case that Signor Cosomati was assaulted in the camp on Nov. 1, because of a cartoon published, he was informed, without his permission. Signor Cosomati failed to identify his assailant, but as a result of inquiries by the camp authorities two internees were on Nov. 13 sentenced to 21 days' detention in cells for having instigated the attack.

The segregation of Italian internees who could be classified as Fascist had to await accommodation, but the provision of a new camp enabled it to be effected on Nov. 14. His information did not confirm the allegations about the conduct of the Palace Camp, and as they constituted a serious reflection on those in charge of the camp he would be glad if Mr. Strauss would furnish him with the information on which he based his statement.

Mr. Strauss: I will certainly give that information.

Mr. Morrison said that everything would be done to prevent disturbances in camps. Moreover, it was the policy to segregate the Nazis from anti-Nazis, and so on.

"On the other hand," Mr. Morrison added, "I do hope that the majority of anti-Nazis will hold their ground. (Hear, hear.) Physical assault is one matter, but in the matter of contagion of opinion I hope the anti-Nazis will do their share of propaganda."

BRITISH TOILING FOR GERMANS

British soldiers are constructing roads, repairing bridges and erecting buildings in ruined Poland, a German paper published in Brussels discloses.

An article on new road and other constructions in Poland refers to the British war prisoners and says:

"Road labourers are seen everywhere who would scarcely have dreamed six months ago of being used for this kind of work. The last time they were seen was in a most desolate condition on the coast at La Panne and Dunkirk.

"Now they are found bending over their ruined heritage, roads left by their splendidly guaranteed war partner, Poland. They have the pleasure of doing something to atone for Poland's neglect."

The article says: "The Tommies do not take their work in a sporting spirit, but do their job."

It is stated that a "certain amount of self-government" is allowed within the camp. Authority is in the hands of an English regular sergeant with eighteen years' service."

The writer admits that the sergeant has "real military bearing," but gibes at the "very soft and slovenly" soldiers under him.

BILL GAVE THEM MUSIC

The B.B.C. is often accused of tying itself in red tape.

Here's the story of the man who cut all the knots and made sure that 2,000 factory workers and millions of listeners heard Music Hall.

If you enjoyed the show, take off your hat to Bill Barrett, just "one of the engineers."

To put the programme on the air, Bill "stole" a van and, though he hadn't a licence, drove it over craters, past unexploded bombs, and through cordons.

Outside a hall with no windows and precious little roof he stopped the van and rigged up mikes among the wreckage.

There, until after dark, he recorded the programme on gramophone records.

Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour, had arranged with John Watt, B.B.C. variety director, that an audience of factory workers should be given free tickets to hear Music Hall recorded at a Bristol hall every Saturday.

He Didn't Care

The artists turned up, so did the audience, but the hall had been wrecked and the recording lines to the B.B.C. smashed.

It looked as if there would be no broadcast. Then Bill came to the rescue.

"The show must go on," he said. "I know where there is a recording van and I'm going to get it. 'I'll take the van and we can argue about it later.'"

When he reached the hall he found the crowd being entertained under what was left of the roof by Charlie Shadwell, Charlie Kunz, Douglas Byng and the rest of the gang.

"It didn't take the engineers long to rig the mikes. Producer John Sharman carried straight on without rehearsal. They finished so late that the audience could not see the artists in the dark.

And Bill didn't get sacked—he got congratulated.

MARRYS PEN FRIEND

One of England's youngest war brides was sixteen-year-old Kathleen Enid Adey of Stream Park, Kingswinford, Staffordshire, who was married by special licence at Dudley to a twenty-year-old bombardier she met as a pen-friend.

Kathleen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Adey, was sixteen in September, when she left high school.

She first came to know the bombardier while at school last January. He is Eric John Elms, second son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Elms, of Wilfred Road, Exeter, who joined the Royal Artillery in 1930. He was at Dunkirk.

While he was serving in France, Kathleen was asked to become a pen-friend to him.

SHE SAID FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE

A woman whose husband had bigamously married another declared that she married him "for better, for worse," and would take him back.

The Common Serjeant (Mr. Cecil Whiteley, K.C.), before whom the man appeared at the Old Bailey on a charge of bigamy, told the husband:

"You either become a husband and father again and do your duty, or, if you don't, you will come back here and get nine months. If you cannot face it, then take your nine months like a man."

Joseph Samuel Douglas Bell, aged thirty-seven, telephonist, pleaded guilty to bigamously marrying Miss Cissie May Davies, and was bound over on condition that he return to his legal wife.

For Children's Sake

Mrs. Bell told the Court that she did not divorce him because of the children, and because he would have lost his job.

"It is not for me to take the children's father from them," she said. "He loves his children. I am willing to have him back and make a fresh start. There is some manhood in him, and I am sure he will be all right if he is given a fresh start."

The Judge: What if he does not get his job back?—I married him for better or worse, and I am willing to start again and help him."

Mr. R. H. Blundell, prosecuting, said that Mr. and Mrs. Bell were married at East Wickham, Kent, in 1927, and there were four children.

He lived on good terms with his wife till September, 1937, when he said to her, "I have married another woman."

He Confessed

That woman was Miss Davies, whom he met in 1930. He told her he was single and they became engaged in 1933.

In 1937 she found herself pregnant and a marriage was arranged. Shortly after the birth of a still-born child Bell confessed to Miss Davies.

The whole position was discussed by the parties and it was decided that Bell should continue to live with Miss Davies, visit his wife and children, and pay his wife an allowance. His wife had said that she was never in need.

In September, 1939, Miss Davies had a daughter which was now in a home.

DUDLEY HOUSE DAMAGED

One of the largest private houses in London, Dudley House, Park Lane, was damaged in an air raid recently. There were no casualties.

The house was built in 1824 by Lord Dudley, at one time Foreign Secretary, and was a notable centre for musical and other receptions.

Some years ago Mr. Whitelaw Reid bought it for his daughter, Lady Ward, who was married to the late Lord Dudley's younger brother. Last year Mrs. James Corrigan, the American hostess, rented it for two months of the season for £5,000.

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BRITAIN'S HEALTH

It is an interesting fact that in spite of gloomy prognostications, the health of the British people sleeping in air raid shelters and, incidentally, their morale, has not deteriorated during the past winter months, a period of the year which is usually associated with colds, influenza and similar complaints.

Air raid shelters are not and cannot be the most salubrious places in the world. Combined with lack of fresh air they are for the most part filled to capacity so that one sick person could presumably infect a score of others. But contrary to medical and health theories, this has not happened. The people emerge from their crowded night quarters each morning still unburdened with unpleasant germs. All of which is probably due to the fact that under present conditions they have no time to devote to their own physical disabilities, and although they have gone through months of the most nerve-racking experiences, in the most uncomfortable of conditions, they remain healthily on their feet.

Compared with total population, the number of air raid shelters does not seem very high, but they are probably adequate. At all events, in London alone public night accommodation is now available for nearly one and a half million and when the severity of the raid demands it, this number goes underground. Londoners, accustomed to tubes, perhaps take more readily to shelters than those living in provincial towns, who prefer to remain in their own quarters however great the risk.

The official precautions taken on behalf of the public include 1,800 first aid posts and 800 mobile first aid posts. Emergency hospital service has been highly organised in anticipation of an invasion and a quarter of a million beds for air raid casualties were arranged although few have up to now been used. The question of supplying those taking shelter with food was a difficult one, but that the problem is being vigorously tackled can be gathered from the fact that there are over 1,800 canteens in London alone.

One other point that denotes the highly organised state of the country: this is the provision which is being made for the benefit of those in-

ABOUT a week before the war started, I was hearing from somebody whose part in it was certain to be very prominent what course he thought it would take.

He was convinced that strategically the crucial point was the Suez Canal and that the Germans would be on the shores of the Black Sea by March.

He was equally convinced that the moment war was declared the British and French fleets in full-strength should support a 24-hour ultimatum to Italy demanding immediate demobilisation with war as the alternative.

At the time I disagreed with such a drastic proposal because I believed that even at so late an hour it was still possible to secure neutrality at a price, and I knew that hardly one in twenty of the people of Italy desired war.

What seemed to me essential was to save the face of the Fascist leaders by the offer of Tunis, Djibouti, certain parts of British West Africa and the freedom of the Suez Canal.

Coinciding with such an offer, it would have been necessary to make it clear that failure to accept it would involve the Italians in the risk of losing the whole of their African Empire not even excepting Eritrea, if Britain and France were victorious.

In the circumstances we should probably have been wise to deliver that ultimatum because during the nine months in which the plans of Mussolini were maturing we did everything possible to convince the Italian leaders that the Germans were bound to win, and, what's more, win before summer was over.

Yet even when Italy did declare war upon France and Britain a safely secret ballot of the country would have revealed hardly more than 20 per cent. of the population as in favour of war.

Those eighty per cent. whose hearts were not in the war at first are not feeling any more enthusiastic about it now when they are faced with the certainty, whatever may happen in Europe, of a hostile America from Labrador to Patagonia.

Even the leaders are nervous that the Vichy Government will succeed in getting round the Germans and that Italy's African

Empire will be no more than dust and mirage when the victory has been won.

But what is our attitude toward the rival ambitions of France and Italy? The collapse of France has made an unequivocal statement imperative. Assuming that

Says Compton Mackenzie

our victory is decisive enough to dictate a peace, what future do we propose for Morocco, Algeria, Tunis and Syria?

Had any of the four declared for General de Gaulle we should make it clear now that if within a certain date they do not declare for him we shall regard with indifference the occupation of Morocco by Spain, of Tunis by Italy, and the division of Algeria between Spain and Italy.

We should proclaim our own intention to create an independent Syria with the same rights in it secured for ourselves as we have secured in Egypt by the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty.

On the other hand, we should notify the Italians that if after such a declaration about the Mediterranean future they persist in supposing that they must try to help the Germans beat us we shall not merely put every Italian out of Africa but hoist them with the petard of ethnical origins by handing over Sicily to Greece.

During the last war there was a strong movement below the surface among Sicilians for incorporation in the British Empire, and I fancy if Hitler were dictating our strategy he would have achieved an occupation of Sicily by now.

Propaganda should be concentrated on Italy. Italy, not Germany, is the country in which to drop leaflets, but let those leaflets provide hard facts and figures, not vague threats and ideological abstractions.

Instead of deporting Italians to internment camps overseas, they should be sent back to Italy.

Instead of giving the B.B.C. announcers schoolgirl sarcasms about Italy, which, with two

honourable exceptions, they read out, some like school-mistresses, others like complacent monitors, they should be given hard facts and accurate figures and ordered to read them unemotionally.

I do not suggest this out of consideration for the feelings of Italians, but because I know Italians to be impressionable and intelligent people.

During the first nine months of the war our propaganda in Italy was pitiable. Most of it was done in Rome and Florence, where Fascism is strongest, and it consisted largely of academic lectures on such subjects as 17th-century English poetry!

There is a proverb in Italy which reflects something like a natural instinct:

Con tutto il mondo la guerra, Ma la pace col' Inghilterra.
War with the whole world, but peace with England!

Mussolini has challenged the validity of that old rhyme, and, except among his ersatz legions, an apprehension of doom now pervades the imagination of the Italian people. It is on this apprehension that our propaganda must play continuously.

The collapse of France has made the problem of the Mediterranean so much simpler that even the doubtful 20 per cent. in Italy who wanted war must be cursing the misjudgment of Mussolini in emerging from non-belligerency.

Let us teach this ringmaster that he is no lion-tamer. Greece has flung open the cage and given us the chance to chase him round the arena.

I do not think I am being misled by a romantic fancy when I say that history will record October 20, 1940, as a crucial date in the annals of the human race. That ultimatum, flung back by the Greeks, has offered us an assurance of victory beyond the power of any orator or even poet to express in words.

I am not going to discuss now the reasons that led to Mussolini's fatal decision for I behold him as a madman on whose destruction the gods have decided, praying at the same time that our leaders will not fail to take the utmost advantage of this divine opportunity.

Once upon a time a colossus bestrode the harbour of Rhodes. It was held to be one of the seven wonders of the world, but an earthquake overthrew it and it has rusted away long ago beneath blue water.

Are we incapable of overthrowing a tinpot colossus like Mussolini? Is it to be seriously argued that we are incapable of assaulting the islands of the Dodecanese, the entire population of which cherishes a ferocious hatred of the Italians into whose hands, we repeat, we, the people of Great Britain, betrayed them in 1922?

We can atone for that betrayal now, and in wiping out such a blot upon our escutcheon we can make our strategic position more secure in regard to Syria. It is seldom granted to redeem dishonour with advantage.

No punishment is too severe for what Italy has done to Greece, but in justice to the Italian people let us give them the opportunity to repent.

We must bomb even Rome if necessary and of what it costs me to write that I envy no reader the mental experience. But we must shower leaflets as well as bombs. We must give the Italian people an opportunity to hear what will happen to them unless they exterminate their Blackshirts like cockroaches and renounce their betrayal of Europe by their bestial alliance with the barbarians.

And what gesture shall we make to Greece beyond aerial aid? Nearly 2,500 years ago the Athenian Army stood at Marathon to resist the might of Persia. They were joined out of all Greece by a thousand men from the little city of Plata which Athens had once befriended.

It looked at the time like certain death, but the Athenians, by employing the tactics which their descendants have just employed so successfully against a crack Italian division in the Pindus Mountains, scattering the Bersaglieri like barndoor fowls, won the most famous victory of recorded history.

Their gratitude to the Plataeans was acknowledged by formal grant of Athenian citizenship. A short time ago we offered union to France if France would resist. France whimpers her refusal.

Might we not now offer to Hellos, not as a bribe, but as a thanksgiving, the freedom of the British Commonwealth?



MEDALS ARE POOR COMPENSATION.
"Hardly one in twenty of the people of Italy desired war."

Italians Isolated By Revolt

The meaning of Britain's victory over the Italian forces in North Africa can be grasped fully only by examining the plight of the 200,000 or so Italian soldiers and many civilians who have been bottled up in Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Italian Somaliland, with a revolt of the natives in Ethiopia already getting out of control.

Italians in East Africa are separated from their Mother Country, being surrounded by British possessions and cut off by sea by the British fleet which patrols the Red Sea and Indian Ocean.

Aside from the radio, the only existing communication between these colonies and Italy is a weekly aeroplane, which flies, when possible, from Asmara in Eritrea to Cufra (Tripoli) and from there to Rome.

From the Kenyan frontier envoys of Haile Selassie have found easy entrance into Ethiopia, through dense tropical forests which are difficult for the Italians

jured, which provides pensions for all persons over the age of 15. Families with incomes of £400 a year or under also receive immediate compensation for loss of essential furniture and clothing. Others are covered by the Government's new insurance scheme. These wise and humane provisions have doubtless contributed to the peace of mind of those living in danger zones, thus helping the undaunted citizen of Britain to maintain a sturdy body as well as a sturdy outlook on events.

to patrol. These envoys have brought into Ethiopia news of the war and of the return of the Negus to Africa, which they have spread throughout the tribes.

First Rebellion

The first sign of rebellion was on Sept. 12. In the village of Cudulu, in the Province of Gimma, the native population had been gathered to witness the hanging of three of the Negus' envoys, captured as they crossed the frontier. The Italian garrison was composed of one company of Fascist blackshirts and two battalions of native troops. As the Resident of the village, an Italian officer, read the sentence, shots were heard in the near-by forest thus giving the signal of revolt.

The two native battalions, recently enrolled, deserted and joined the rebels. In a short time the blackshirts were practically wiped out, their captain being taken prisoner and transferred across the frontier to the British in Kenya.

When the Italian military command heard of this incident, Eritrean troops were sent to punish the rebellion. These found the village deserted and had to be content with burning it.

In the meantime, Abebe Regai escaped from the Italians and joined the Negus. During the Italian campaign in Ethiopia, Abebe Regai was commander of the Ethiopian garrison in Addis Ababa. After the Italian conquest he led successful sports of rebellion. He had surrendered to the Italian Government only last spring.

With the news of the flight of Abebe Regai, a flame of rebellion spread throughout the tribes in Ethiopia and the situation became more serious, for the chief has the reputation of being the most able

and successful leader among the Ethiopians.

Followers Organised

Abebe Regai has organised a group of followers in Scioa. In November he nearly destroyed several squadrons of native cavalry commanded by Colonel Morigi. Abebe Regai surprised them as they patrolled mountainous country in the Scioa region. After a day's fight, Colonel Morigi was obliged to retreat to Addis Ababa, having lost 320 Ascarri and six officers.

These two incidents together with news of the return of Haile Selassie, have resulted in continual desertions of native troops organised by the Italians. Eritrean and Somali troops have remained faithful to the Italians and it is especially among the Amharic, Scioan, and Galla soldiers, more recently enrolled, that desertions have occurred. Deserters have found refuge in the forests from which have spread the word of rebellion. The few battalions of these tribes that have not deserted have been disarmed by the Italians, who cannot trust them any longer.

Large trenches and barbed-wire enclosures have been built around the principal cities of Ethiopia: Addis Ababa, Dessaye, Dire Dawa, Harar, and Gondar. Behind these constructions the garrisons and colonisers have enclosed themselves. Travel between cities is done mostly by air and by caravans of armed trucks, escorted by speed tanks.

Troops Recalled

From Ethiopia's frontiers many troops sent to attempt an offensive thrust at Great Britain's colonies have been sent back to reinforce city garrisons.

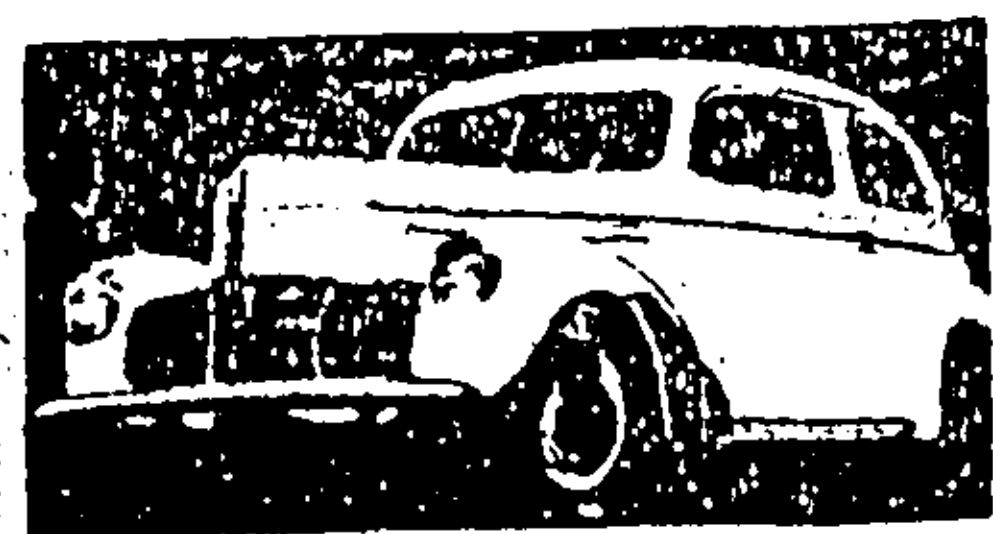
After nightfall in the cities, even in Addis Ababa, no one is allowed to go out in the streets. Distrust reigns between the native population and the whites. Ras Ailu, considered faithful and friendly toward the Italians, is being watched.

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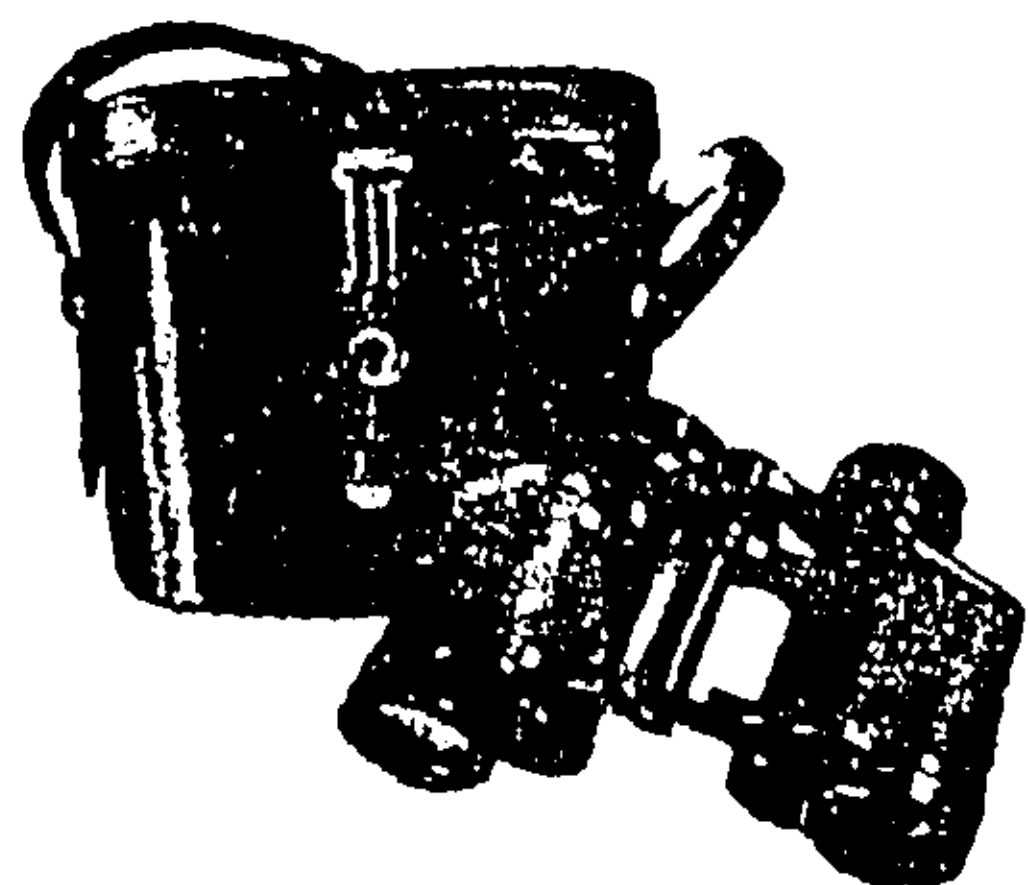
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**INDIA COULD PUT
1,500,000 MEN
INTO THE FIELD**

INDIA, ALREADY playing an important role in the operations of the Near East and Africa, awaits only equipment to take a still far greater part than she has done hitherto in the Empire's war effort.

This was the encouraging message given recently to the House of Commons by Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, when he opened a debate on the war efforts of India, Burma and the Colonies.

"There is no scarcity of willing recruits," he said. "Some 25,000, indeed, of those who have offered themselves have had to be temporarily relegated. The other day, the announcement of 300 vacancies in the Indian Air Force Reserve brought in 18,000 applications."

In the last war India put over 1,500,000 trained men into the field. She could do so again, if so many were needed, if once the equipment was there.

All members of India's fighting forces were volunteers. "For the moment, equipment governs everything, and it is upon the equipment situation that the expansion of India's war effort has depended and will continue to depend."

Mr. Amery went on to speak of India's achievement already. The Indian Army was being expanded to 500,000 men from its peace-time strength of 160,000 men. Over 100,000 recruits had already been taken, of whom a large proportion were fully trained by now. Mechanical transport for this army had been expanded from 5,000 vehicles to 32,000 vehicles, and that number would be doubled this year.

Enthusiasm for Air

Some 60,000 of these troops were already serving overseas—in Malaya, Aden and the Middle East. A transport contingent which had distinguished itself in France was now in Great Britain. Indian troops had shown gallantry in Somaliland and at Gallabat. Others were defending India in the Far East.

Mr. Amery paid tribute to the help given by the Ruling Princes and by the Kingdom of Nepal.

Needs at home and in the Middle East had limited the expansion of India's Force, but there was great enthusiasm for the service in India. "Young Indians, with their quick minds and sensitive hands, take naturally to flying."

The Indian Navy had been more than trebled since the outbreak of war and was still being steadily increased.

Mr. Amery turned to the industrial contribution of India to the war effort.

Of 40,000 items which go to the equipment of a modern army, India already supplied more than half. In respect of 90 per cent. of military supplies, she would be self-supporting so far as the requirements of her own forces were concerned.

There was however, still room for further expansion of India's effort. She had great reserves of industrial capacity which could be harnessed to war purposes. The Minister of Labour and himself had been concerting arrangements both for the despatch to India of an additional supply of competent instructors and the bringing of young Indian workers here to learn our methods and the spirit of British industrial organisation.

The Common Enemy

On the main issue there was certainly no divergence among the leaders of Indian opinion, whatever other differences there might be between us and between themselves. They knew that the defeat of the British Empire and the victory of the dictatorships would leave India defenceless against inevitable aggression, and that a Nazi victory would be a death blow to all they cared for in the world of politics.

That sympathy had been expressed in contributions that had poured in spontaneously from Indians in every walk of life, from ruling Princes to working men, both to the Viceroy's General War Purposes Fund and to every fund raised in this country for purposes connected with the war.

In large measure the defence of the Empire east and south of Suez, as well as the Middle Eastern front itself, would have to rest upon its own resources, and those resources in manpower, industry and raw materials were immense if they could be effectively combined and matched with each other.

The outcome of the Delhi Conference would be the growth of India's ability to provide her own defence and the enrichment of her productive power, which were the real sources of true independence, and it would strengthen her claim to full and equal partnership which the House wished to see her attain.

**WRIT AGAINST
BISHOP**

Members of the Cement Federation have issued a writ against the Bishop of Birmingham (Dr. Barnes) in respect of a speech he made at Birmingham recently.

During his speech the Bishop referred to production of air-raid shelters, and criticised what he described as "a cement ring."

**PASSENGERS
AS BUS
CONDUCTORS**

Birmingham City Corporation are to ask men to volunteer as part-time bus conductors between the rush hours of 4.30 and 6 o'clock.

"The men who are chosen will be given an armlet, 'Birmingham City Transport Auxiliary Conductor,' an official of the Transport Department stated.

"Volunteers will board the bus at special places. They will stand on the platform and call out stopping places.

"They will learn the bell signals.

"They must prevent passengers rushing the bus.

"We want the men to be familiar with the route on which they will work.

"On Saturdays we shall ask volunteers to work between the rush hours of 12 and 1.30.

"If they take fares on the platform they must be paid over to the proper conductor. The scheme will help services overcrowded at present.

"At the moment we are putting three hours' work into one."

**A.R.P. SHELTERS
IN 2,500
NEW HOUSES**

Coventry is building 2,500 new fireproof houses with air raid shelters inside them.

The shelter opens into the kitchen. The walls are of four-inch solid brickwork, and it has two layers of reinforced concrete over it.

It is big enough to take full-sized mattresses, which can be fitted one above the other, like bunks.

As the shelters are built into the houses, and as the houses are in blocks of four and six, the adjoining walls act as buttresses.

Details of this latest idea in air-raid protection were given by Mr. E. Gibson, Coventry city architect, in an address in London.

Coventry, he said, is one of the few places where house building is continuing during the war, the houses being wanted to provide accommodation for workers, and their families who have been called to the city.

One of the difficulties was the lack of timber and steel, and ways had to be found for building with the minimum of these materials.

The main substitute is concrete, using a small amount of steel.

The floors contain sealed air cells which will stop cold from the ground from reaching the room.

The staircase is of concrete, and the only timber used is in the doors.

**LIT MATCHES,
FINED £3**

For showing a light by striking matches in a telephone kiosk, a naval officer was fined at Great Yarmouth.

A police officer said that following a complaint from a coastguard he found Lieutenant Charles L. Carroll, R.N.R., "striking matches for a lady who was telephoning."

When he spoke to the two, the woman said she could not see to dial, and witness told her to dial "O" and ask for her number.

An aeroplane was overhead, and he said that he expected to receive complaints about the light from the Fighter Command.

It was stated that many complaints had been received from the Fighter Command about lights on the sea front, and explanations were asked. This was the explanation.

Lieutenant Carroll, in a letter to the Bench, said he struck three matches for three separate telephone calls.

He was fined £3 and ordered to pay 3s. 6d. costs.

Country House Burned.—Fire destroyed Hall Place, Leigh, Kent, the country mansion of Lord Hollenden, whose London house was bombed recently.

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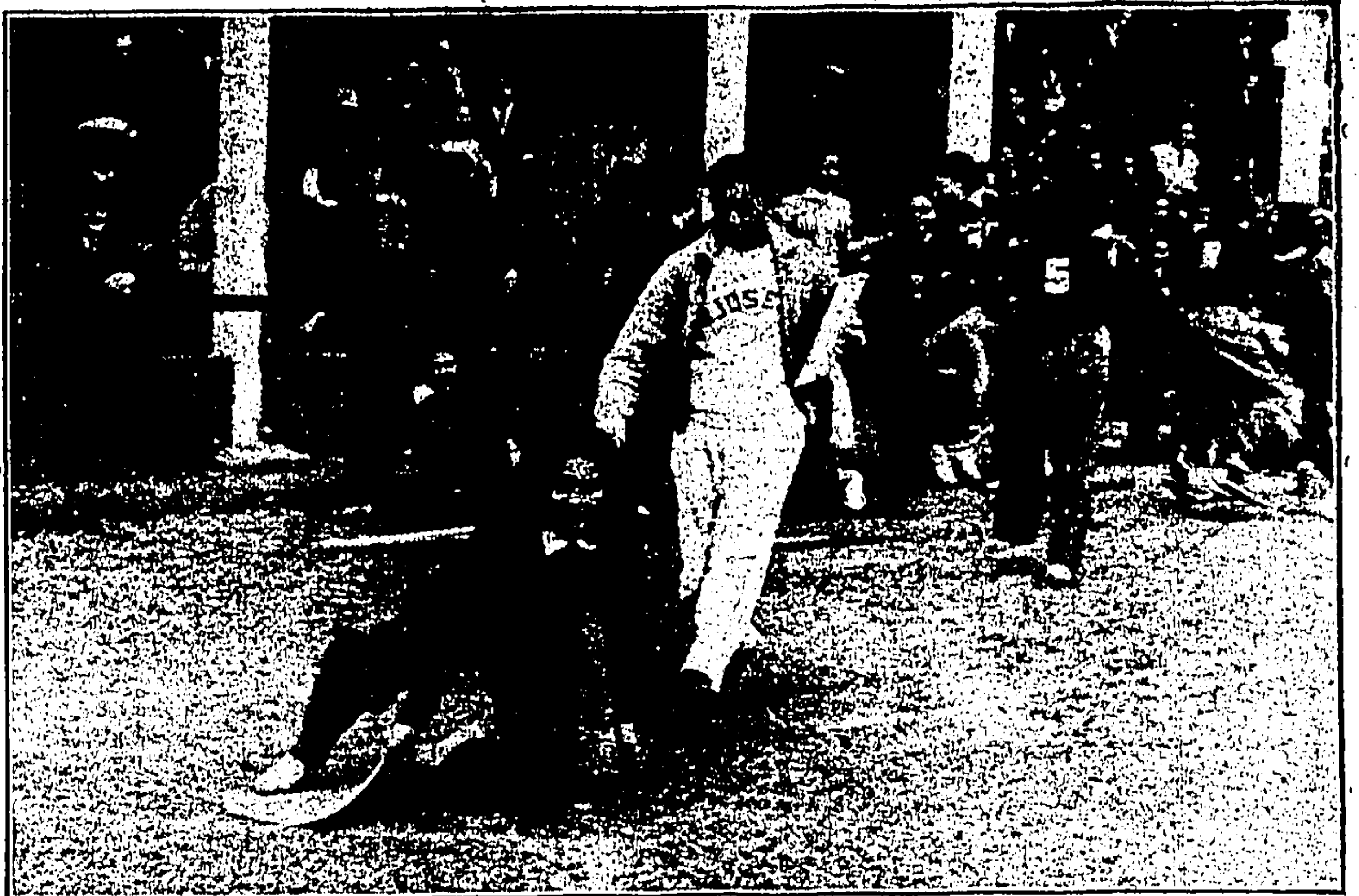
THE CHINA MAIL

FRIDAY SUPPLEMENT, HONG KONG, FEBRUARY 14, 1941.

Softball Needle Match



A heated debate on a point of law in the softball "needle" match between the Wahos and the Canucketes on Sunday. The Canadians won 8-6, but there was much criticism of umpire decisions.



Miss J. Anderson (Wahos) sends her team into raptures by smashing out a home run. Here Miss Anderson is seen at the home plate, and her team-mates jumping with enthusiasm. Miss Anderson after injured an arm and will be out of the game for some weeks.



The large crowd which watched Sunday's softball encounters at the Kowloon Football Club ground.



(Left) — The King and Queen recently visited the North-east coast and viewed the defences, air-raid damage, and an aircraft factory. During their visit they also met Mrs. Cardwell the woman who captured a German airman single handed and presented her with the Medal of the Order of the British Empire. Photo shows the Queen talking to people who lived in the damaged house. (Copyright, Fox).



The team sent from Macao to play Eastern on Tuesday. The Hong Kong team was too powerful for the visitors and won 3-1.



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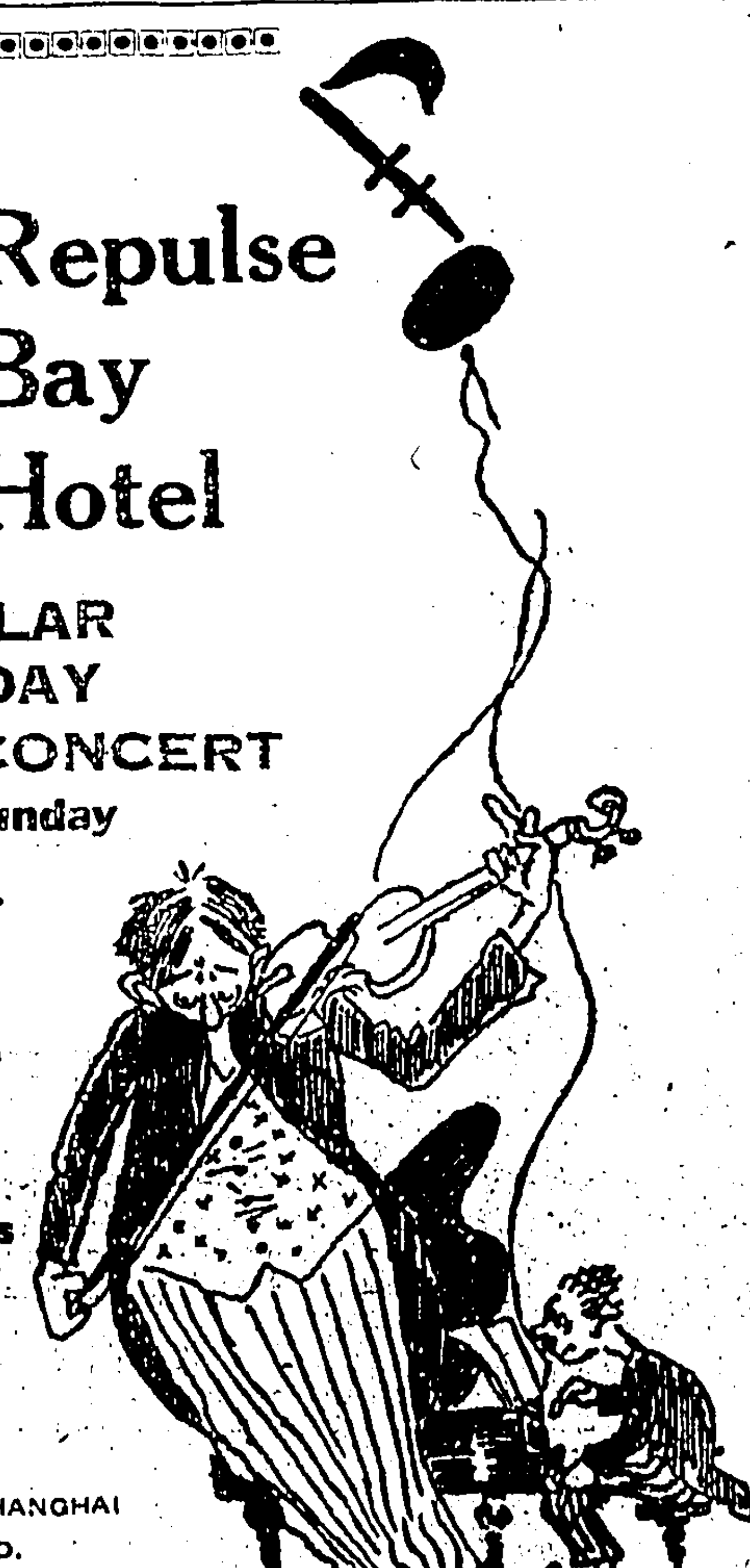
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THE RAT By Leonard R. Gribble

SWINGING a pick in a Dartmoor quarry, grey-clad Convict 09156 counted the months ahead. Tramping the cobbled confines of the prison yard under a lowering sky he counted the weeks. Standing braced against the scarred wall of his cell he counted the days.

Months . . . weeks . . . days. The dead-march of Time caught up with him at last.

He stood before the Governor and was told officially that he was a man again. The well-meaning advice, the carefully chosen words, elicited no response from him, brought no answering gleam to the opaque glaze of his eyes. Something had died in Convict 09156. It did not quicken when Bert Tallent walked from the prison gates, free after nearly three years, the sound of numberless feet shuffling in concert no longer in his ears.

"Hey, there, Bert!" He saw his brother Jack, seated behind the wheel of an old car. "Hello, Jack!" He spoke in a whisper, out of the side of his mouth, without realising it. As the car moved off he added, "How're things?" in the same soft tone.

"Oh, all right. I wrote you." "Yeah, I know. Everything in Hoxton's fine. You're still at the garage getting four quid a week, the old man's still on his feet. I knew. But Connie—what about her?"

Lads drew down over the opaque eyes, the brown hand fists knotted. Jack Tallent threw a side-glance at his brother and tried to keep his voice casual.

"Connie? She's fine. Got a job with Bob Studds, the bookie. Office work. Not bad pay. Connie's all right."

"Yeah, Connie's all right." It

was the low-uttered prayer of a man who had believed, and whose belief had been truly founded.

Jack Tallent stared straight ahead.

"What you going to do now, Bert?"

"Stop with the old man for a few days, then come back to the lodgings."

"I know. Of course. That's right." The car swerved without apparent reason. "But what you going to do?"

Bert Tallent smiled. His teeth were strong, white, rooted in healthy bone. "First thing I'm doing," he said slowly, "is getting even with a rat."

The man and the girl sat at a secluded table in the frowsy restaurant. Across the near-white table-cover their glances met and clashed. Round grey eyes lighting a face somewhat too plump to be termed an oval, crowned with brassy tortured ringlets, challenged the black-brown, deepest eyes assessing her with rodent scrutiny.

"You and me—that was a mistake, Sam. I found it out. It was nothing." She caught her breath as she raised a cigarette to her examined lips. "But Bert's out, been out about a week and hasn't come near me. You've got to tell him the truth. You've got to," she repeated, natural colour deepening the shade of her cheeks.

A lean, not particularly clean hand smoothed the man's face, quivered his chin. The thin nose dominating his buck teeth wrinkled as he grinned.

"Listen, Connie," he said, "don't get me wrong. I got nothing against Bert."

"No?" she said. "Well, there's been plenty of talk about you shipping him. He wasn't in on that Camden Town job, and some-

body spoke out of turn to the cops. Bert was framed."

The man shrugged his shoulders, hunching them about his ears.

"He was shipped, but that don't mean I knew anything about it, Connie." His speculative eyes took in the girl's features, her figure, her clothes. "Now look, Bert's going back to his brother's lodgings to-night."

"How do you know that?" she flashed.

His grin became a leer, cunning, deceptive.

"Never mind. I know. I make it my business to know things. Plenty of things. It's useful in all sorts of ways."

"Yes, the cops pay their harks."

A hand like a paw gripped her wrist. "Drop that stuff, d'you hear?" he growled, throwing a furtive glance over a padded shoulder. The hand drew back. "Listen, you want to square things with Bert. All right, go to him to-night, before he gets a hearing. Things see? Put him right."

The rodent eyes shone with meaning. The girl dropped the butt of her cigarette in the dregs of her coffee-cup.

"Right for you, you mean, Sam Apps?"

She was understanding this man as she had never understood him before. Something like shame scared her mind. What in God's name had she ever seen in him, with his oily head, yellow teeth, and wasp-waisted clothes? She asked herself, and mentally shuddered.

"Right for us, Connie." His head jutted forward, his lips more bulging. "Bert will listen to you. He wouldn't raise his hand to a

woman."

"You can explain. Everything," he added after a pause.

"Then you won't—"

He shook his head.

"I know Bert Tallent. He'll be putty in your hands, Connie. He's only been out a few days, playing good boy while the coppers watch him. For two years and seven months he hasn't seen a woman—hasn't held a woman. See? You do as I say, and everything will be all right."

Loathing crept into her face. She knew now what he wanted her to do, throw herself back at Bert in order to save himself. He was afraid. Like a rat in a corner faced by a terrier. But there was something more than fear in his eyes, something she couldn't fathom, something that made her afraid—for herself, for Bert. Her mind rocked in turmoil, trying to clarify fused thought. She would have got up, but he pushed her back into her seat.

"Wait, Connie," he said, showing his teeth again. "I'm a pal. I like you. I want to see you fixed right." He took a black seal wallet from his pocket, drew out a crisp white piece of paper. "Here. Your savings. Don't forget that touch. And he'll want money. Jobs won't be easy for a bit. You want to help him, don't you? You don't want him going about without money in his pocket. He'll want clothes, cigarettes, to take you to the pictures. You know. Well, be sensible. Make an impression. Show him you've got a head on your shoulders."

The piece of white paper was a £20 note.

"But nothing." He pressed the note into her hand. "Don't be a fool, and I'm your friend. Go there, see him before his brother comes home from the garage. Get him alone. Make him take that money at once. That'll stop him thinking what you don't want him to think. You're smart. You're no fool, Connie. Do as I say, and everything will be all right—for both of us."

He made that last part sound a concession to her. She couldn't think. Not with his eyes glittering at her, little round shiny specks, like old-fashioned boot-buttons. He pushed back his chair rose.

"Come on, Connie. Just do as I say. I know how it'll work out."

Suddenly her mind cleared, and she saw things distinctly.

"Yes, sure. I know, Sam."

"That's the talk. That's the girl." He laughed, brittle sound without a true note. "Come on."

They left the frowsy restaurant together.

Bert Tallent opened the door and a hungry look swept into his face as he saw the girl on the landing.

"Why, Bert, you look fine!"

"I'm all right, Connie."

She came into the room, and he closed the door. As she passed him he caught the fragrance of the perfume she had used. His fists knotted at his sides. Her left hand was bare. Bleakness came to his eyes, robbing them of sight for a moment.

"Where's the ring, Connie?" His voice shook.

"I had to hock it, Bert—honest. You see, you inside. It wasn't easy. People said things. And I had to live."

"Yes, you had to live," he repeated, thinking of the dun moors, the quarries, a chink of night sky patterned by iron bars.

"Then Bob Studds gave me a job, keeping account. I saved, Bert. Look." She took the £20 note from the bag. "It's our start for a new life, Bert. Take it. You can pay me back, later, when you've got something."

He stared at the money in his hands.

"How did you know I would be back here to-night?" he asked levelly.

"Why, a friend of Jack's phoned through a bet this afternoon. He told me, Jack told him. Please, Bert, put the money away."

"Look here, I ain't—"

"Bert!" she pleaded. "Don't make it hard for me—after all this time." She pushed his hand holding the note into his pocket, and raised her red lips invitingly.

There was a glow deep in her eyes. He crushed her to him, like a thirsty man seizing a pitcher of water. New fire flowed in his veins, burning out caution, suspicion, doubt, all save knowledge that she was here, in his arms.

A knock on the door parted them. He opened it. Two men pushed their way inside. There was no need to ask who they were and their business. They were detectives.

"Bert Tallent?" said the taller.

"All right, take it easy. We want to have a look round." He grinned like a cat scenting fresh cream. "May as well start with you yourself."

He grabbed one of Bert's shoulders, pushed a hand into one of his pockets.

"Look here, what the hell—"

"I said take it easy. Couple of nights ago the Harrow Road post office was cleaned out. Well, we ain't had any luck—Hullo!" he broke off, producing the £20 note, and holding it up. His grin widened. "Bull's-eye! You just outside, Tallent, and in your pocket a twenty-quid note. Strange, you know. That post office lost fourteen twenties."

Before he could stop him Bert had whirled away. He caught one of Connie's arms.

"So," he ground out. "It's true—those rumours about you and Sam Apps. He's got you, and got you to fix me again. By God."

His hand slashed across her face and she fell back. The next moment he was spun round as the second detective jumped him.

In the centre of the room the first detective was staring from the serial number of the note to a list he had produced.

"Hey," he said, "something's wrong! This ain't one of the stolen notes." He turned a frustrated look at his assistant. "That tip we got was—"

"Too late, he stopped. "Come on," he grunted. He went out, followed by the other. The door closed behind them.

Slowly Bert turned an amazed look on the girl. There was a smear of blood on her cheek, but she looked happy. A new radiance illumined her face.

"I knew it was a frame up," she whispered. "The dirty rat." Bert watched her, unable to speak, as she poured forth her story. "And that's what he tried to get me to do, Bert. But I knew why. He was afraid of you. He knew you would get him. Well, I wasn't, having you go inside again for him."

Bert shook his head. Somehow he felt very much like a small boy who has produced the wrong answer for a very simple sum.

"You mean, Connie, all this—this—"

She laughed joyously. "I've paid for being a fool, Bert, but the last payment's made. I got the account settled for us, not for me or for you. And he—Sam Apps—gave me the idea."

Her laughter rose like a flight of birds.

His manhood marvelled and paid homage. His throat was dry, yet his heart pounded with singing labour. He had struck her, he had lifted his hand against her! Like any man witnessing the enactment of a miracle, he lost the comfort of strength, his mind washed by the flood tide of understanding.

"You mean, Connie—"

She rushed on buoyant, a woman triumphant over self.

"I mean, Bert, I saw what his game was—in a flash. At first I didn't. I thought—Never mind what I thought. All of a sudden I knew. I went to Bob Studds, and asked him to change the note. He wanted to know where I got it."

"You told him?" New fear threaded his voice for her now.

"Of course. The governor's all right. But he's got his own ways of finding things out. He tumbled to that note. Probably knew the numbers of the stolen twenties. Anyway, he offered me fifteen quid for it. I took it, and he grinned. It was a deal both ways. He wants to get his own back on Sam Apps. The fool once twisted him on the 'phone. Placed a bet and didn't show the money. Bob Studds don't forget things like that. And there's other ways Sam Apps has been unpleasant. He's always flush. He's on the inside when information is circulating, but the cops never touch him. That don't look so good. Well, Bob Studds will nail him with that twenty-quid note. The cops will know this time all right. Oh, yes, Bert, there's one rat that will walk into a trap baited with his own bit of cheese."

She was near to hysteria. He saw that now. He stretched out his arms and drew her to him. His lips touched the atreak of blood on her cheek. She trembled, and the wildness left her laughter.

"Bert!" she murmured as his lips found hers, claimed them. "God, I've been lonely for you!"

Then suddenly she straightened. "Quick, before Solly's pawn-shop shuts."

"Why, what—"

"Don't stand like a goop, Bert. The ring—I want it back, now."

(Continued on Page 3)

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Seeds Of Wrath Sown In Nazi Germany

GERMANY, at the end of its greatest year of military triumph, stands a mighty Tantalus poised for a supreme effort to reach the fruits of victory which still dangle just beyond reach despite its successes on the battlefield.

Seldom in history have armies achieved such quick and sweeping successes. But also seldom before has the enjoyment of victory been so illusive as it has been for this modern Germany which, time and again, has seemed on the verge of realisation of its colossal dream but has still to taste the sweets of conquest.

Doubts of ultimate success, however, scarcely ripple the surface of German confidence, either among the military leaders or the submissive long-suffering civilian mass. For the Reich possesses history's most expertly formed army, unconquered, in fact, even unchecked in nine months of unrelenting campaigning.

Victory Just Out Of Reach

But the year has always seen that ultimate victory snatched away at the last moment and left it still something tempting, something seemingly on the verge of attainment, but something still illusive.

Now with the opening of the new year that Army is moving again in another effort to reach by swift advance the rewards for which Germany and the German people have been sweated and rationed and moulded for eight long years.

They are not to be deprived of it easily. Their offensive power at least on land and in the air is greater than ever before. The weapons hurled into France in the spring have been sharpened by experience, platted by success, weighted by new recruits and six months of intensive industrial production of more arms.

Ready To Strike

The thrust of this Army wherever it goes will be terrific. Its size is such that it could, in theory, strike simultaneously in more than one direction. The maximum force unusable in an attempt against England is undoubtedly poised along Europe's eastern shores. Other even larger forces are apparently in motion in the direction of Britain's Mediterranean possessions. More are in a position to guarantee the security of Germany's pact of friendship with Russia. Any

number of military possibilities are open to the German High Command.

Out of these possibilities the German engineers of war have selected those which they consider best suited to the aim of breaking England's resistance and bringing the final victory which would give the Nazi Party unchallenged control of two continents and a world position unrivalled since the days of Rome.

Penalties For Failure

But if 1940 has brought the ancient German dream of conquest so near, fruition it has also witnessed the emergence of penalties which must be paid for failure.

Before the offensive started every other country in Europe had within itself elements strongly attracted by the concept of the new German order for Europe. Even after the Nazi armies entered those countries strong movements to accept the conquest and collaborate with Germany persisted. But with the passing of the months that receptiveness has been replaced by suspicion, fear, resistance, and hatred.

Seeds Of Wrath Sown

The men and the ideas who have followed in the wake of the conquering armies have caused a revulsion, have in fact sowed the seeds of wrath.

Never before has Germany had so few friends.

Hope for its ultimate defeat has swept from the areas under its control out through the world. If these armies ever falter and fall back, Germany will reap the whirlwind of its sowing.

The need to conquer increases as its armies expand their conquest. The knowledge of this drives them on farther afield, silences the moderates within their councils, strengthens the voices of those whose ambition know the widest horizon.

Need To Conquer Increases

And the need to conquer increases.

The year's swift victories have not seriously depleted Germany's war reserves. The spoils of war have made up much of the ex-

penditures in food and raw material. The German people are eating to-day almost as well as they did last winter, and their leaders have stated that if a time of serious shortage comes the German people will not be the first to suffer.

Yet there is enough change in conditions inside of Germany to hint of coming lacks if the war goes on indefinitely.

The rationing system is being constantly extended to cover more things. Household objects, both

is no apparent undernourishment nor any reason to believe that it exists. But these little things merely serve to remind the thoughtful that in another two or three years it could be different. The downward graph of living standards is gradual and scarcely noticeable from one month to another. But it goes down over the year.

Morale has held up remarkably during the year and is actually better now than at this time last year.

At the end of 1939 there was nothing but the victory in Poland to convince the public that the German Army was superlatively powerful. The easy conquest of France wiped out the serious doubt which clouded the early war months. They have that record of victory to reassure them. And along with this moral factor is the growing fear of what would happen should they lose the war.

The fear of the consequences of hatred developing against them makes the great majority of Germans loyal to the cause of victory regardless of their feelings towards Nazism. So long as they foresee victory they can be expected to support the war effort. The only thing which would seriously undermine morale would be some development which would destroy the confidence in the possibility of victory.

Foundations of Morale

On the other hand, if the expectation of ultimate victory were seriously undermined a deep reaction is conceivable.

Morale is built on the combination of expected victory and fear of consequences of failure, not on basic faith in the righteousness of the cause.

There is a noticeable lack of enthusiasm, of any enduring crusading zeal.

The looming menace of America on the horizon is beginning to trouble them. It is another element driving military policy toward new and early efforts to reach the illusive victory quickly.

As yet the threat is only dimly appreciated by public opinion sheltered by the controlled press from full knowledge of the American trend. Further, the average German has been told that Amer-

ica will aid England only so long as England can pay. He is inclined to believe that America is completely mercenary.

American Aid

One of the severest blows which could be dealt his morale would be an American contribution to England divorced from profits. Should that happen he would begin to believe that America is really sincere in its devotion to the English cause, and that would probably shake him.

But all of these dangers seem remote to a German far behind the lines of his powerful and confident army. Everything that Army has attacked has been conquered or thrown back.

That he knows and feels and that keeps his confidence high despite the gradual encroachment of shortage on his standard of living. The beginning of 1941 finds the average German still believing that the victory he has spent eight years preparing for is still almost within reach.

The Rat

(Continued from Page 2)

to-night!"

His face registered only blankness.

"Don't you see!" she all but shouted. "Bob Sudds only gave me fifteen quid for that stolen twenty. I pawned the ring—our ring—this evening, to get enough to make up the twenty. I had to go through with it, get those cops mad about being sent on a false trip. They'll know who tipped them off—Sam Apps. That won't do him any good when they find the right note on him. I'll look as though he's double-crossing 'em. Now don't you get it? Or do you want me to sing it to you?"

There was mischief in her face, devils of laughter in her eyes. Nothing mattered to her now. She had attained fulfilment. The emptiness of months meant nothing now. Life was brimming over, and she held the cup securely in both hands.

Grimacing, Bert reached for his cap. He forgot to whisper.

"Think Solly will change a twenty, Connie?"

She bridled, her rich mouth dimpling with fun.

"He'll change that one, Bert. I made him take down the number when he gave it to me. You see, I wasn't taking any chances."

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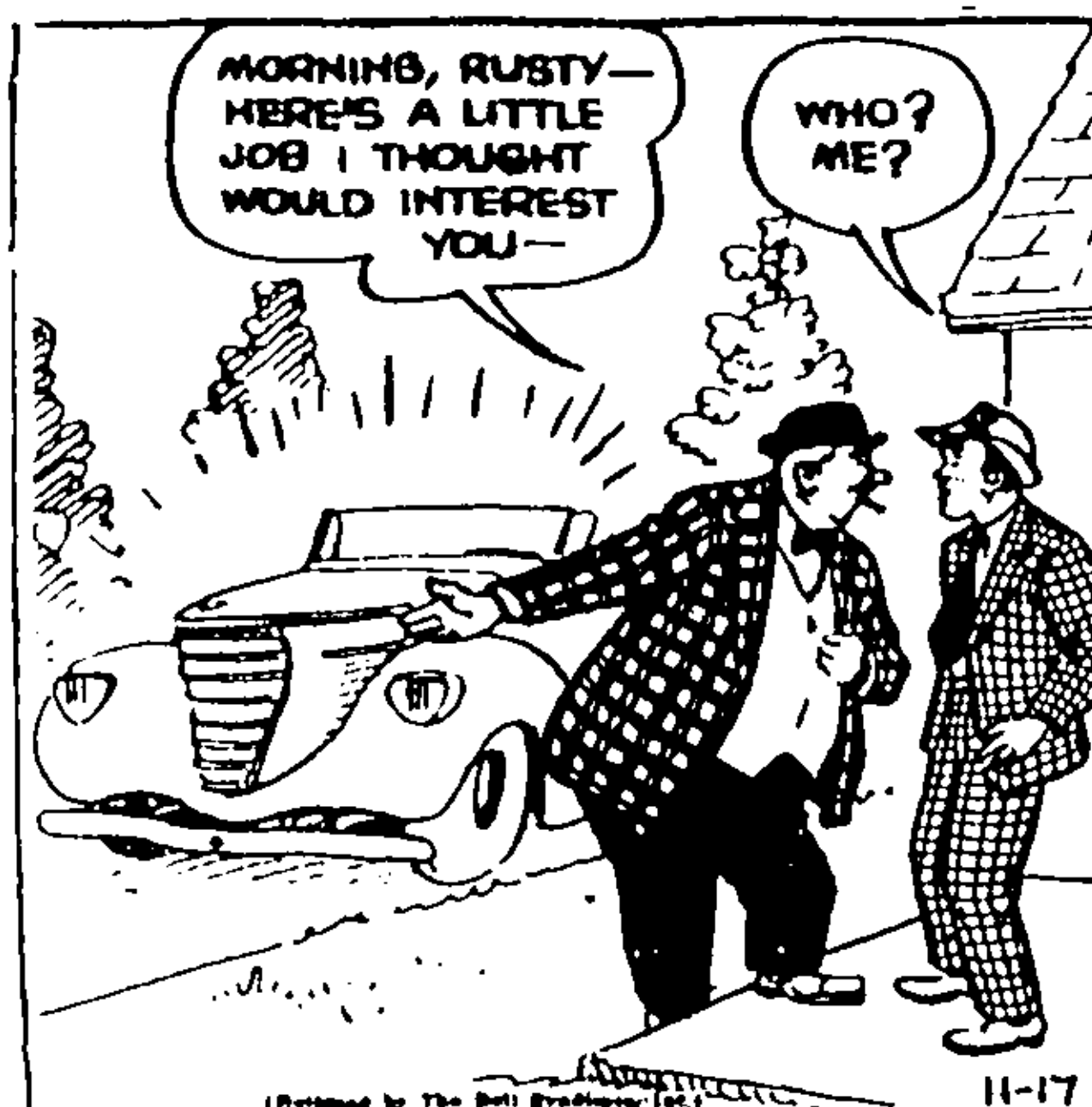
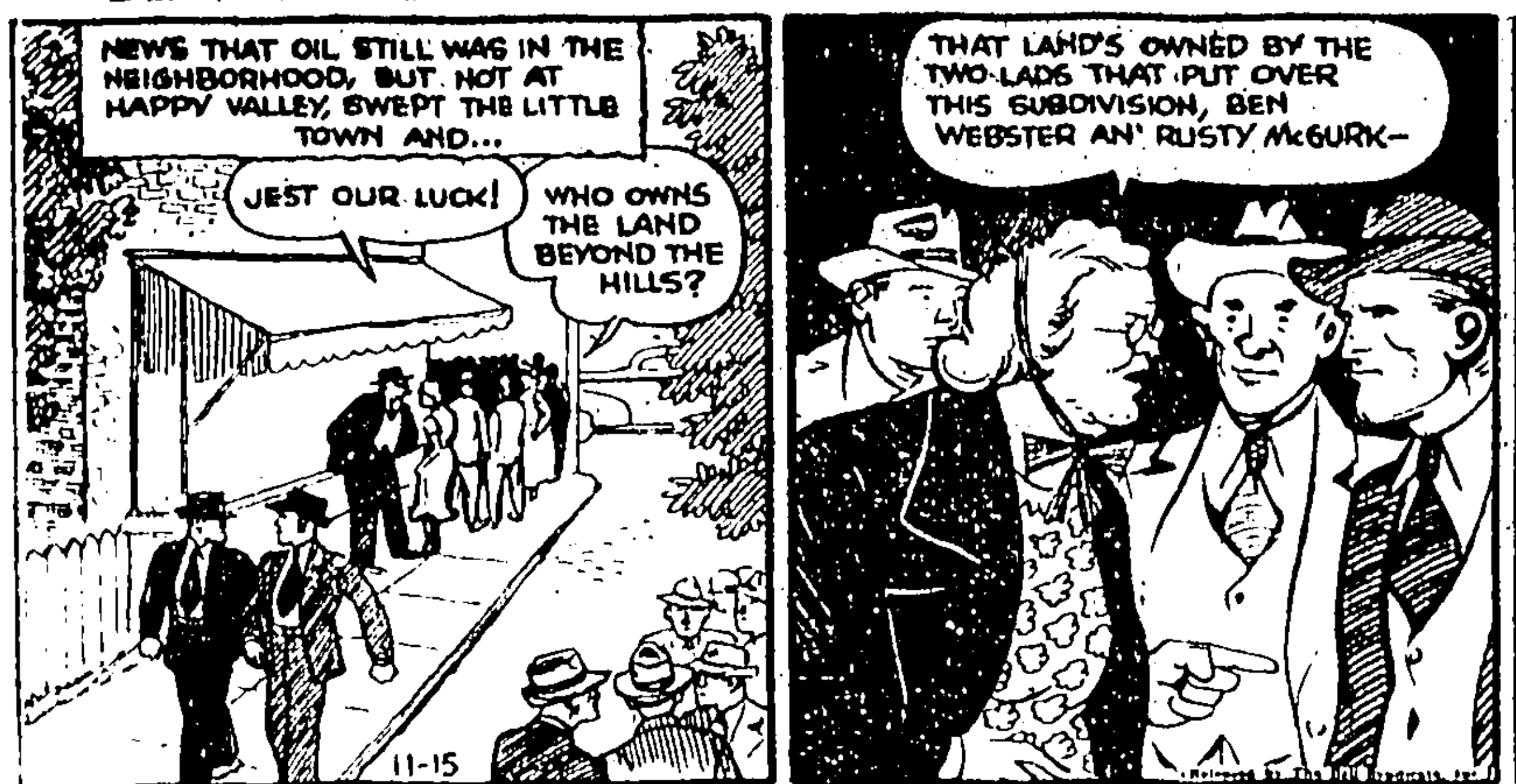
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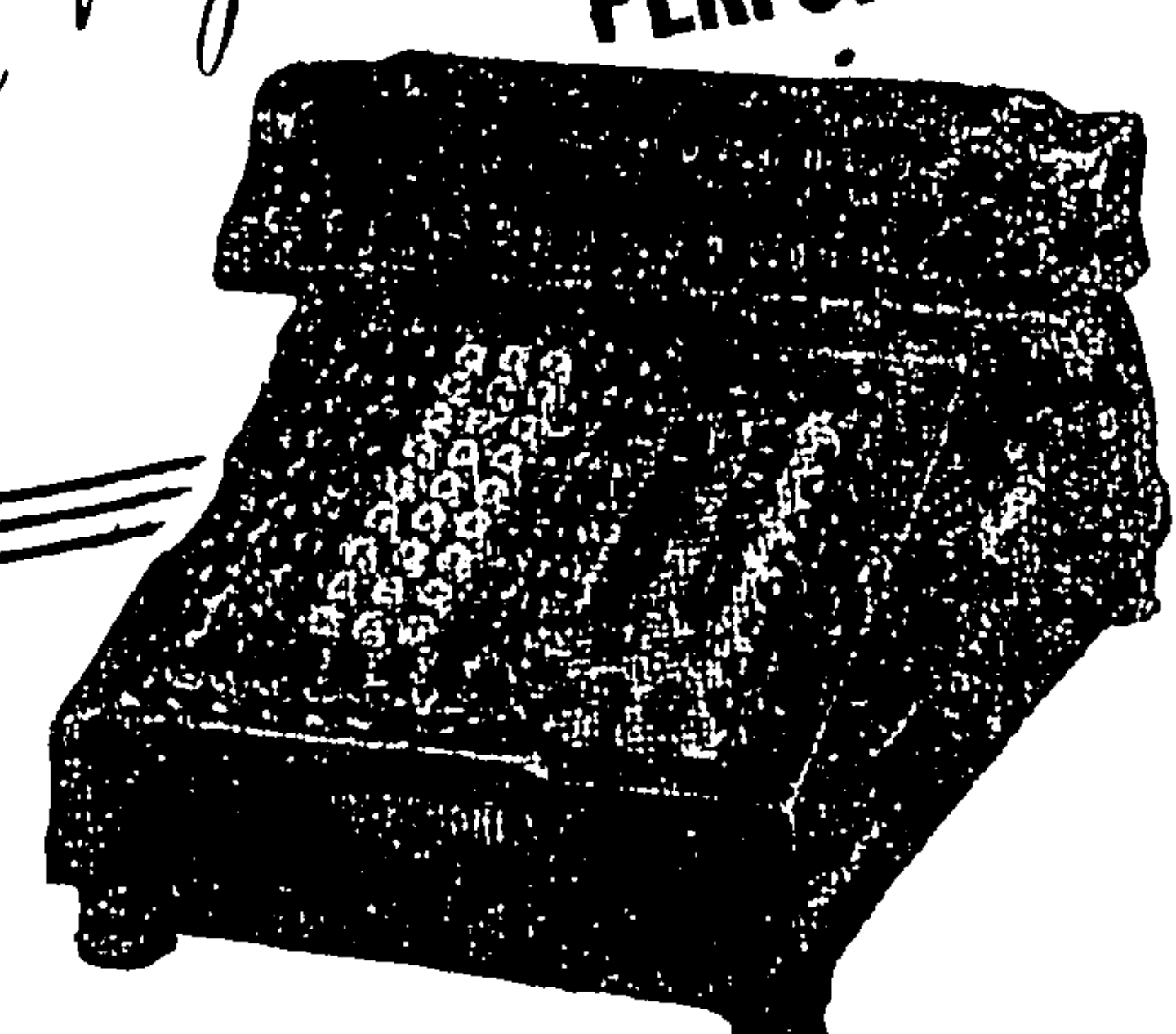
STREET VIEW! By EDWIN ALGER

(Continued on Page 6)



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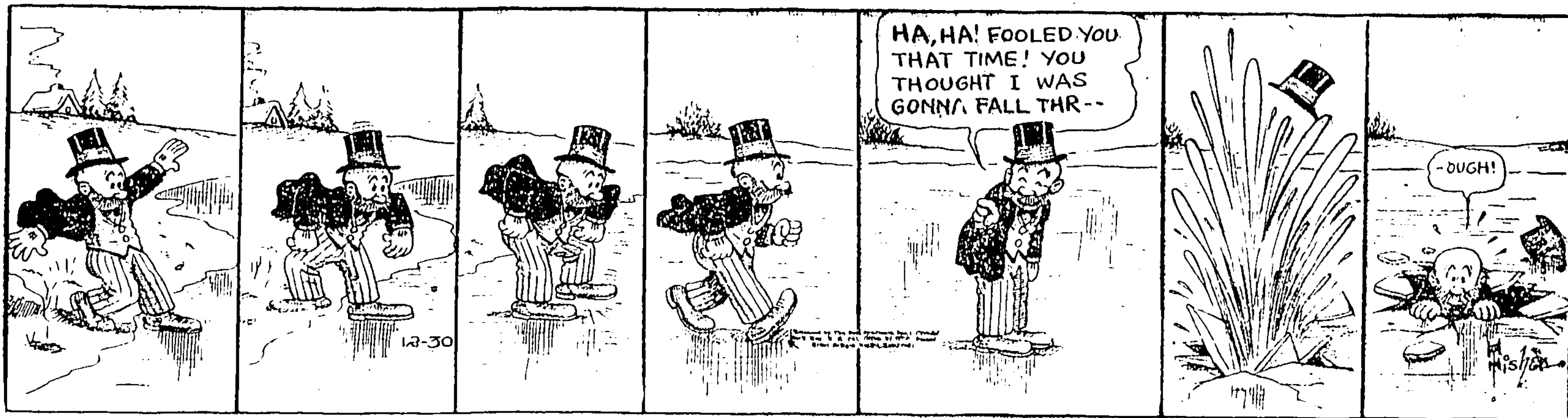
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MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER



A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Eat Iodine Foods For Hair Beauty

Authorities tell us that hair is very dependent upon iodine in the blood stream. If your diet includes sufficient foods containing iodine your hair will keep its beauty and health and its colour. If too many years of vitamin deficiency has not already robbed it of its colour.

The best source of iodine in food is from fish. Clams, cod liver oil, halibut, lobsters, pure oysters, salmon and shrimp all should be included in your menus. Other fish too contain iodine. The next best source is from goat's milk, iodized salt, seaweed powder, kelp and some vegetables and fruits. Barley, green beans, bran, carrots, cherries, corn, loganberries, oats and spinach contain fair amounts of iodine, and surprising as it may seem, sea air furnishes some as you breathe it in. That is why persons who lack iodine usually feel better if they get down near the sea.

Generous amounts of fish should be eaten at least three times a week and your daily menus should contain at least two of the other foods mentioned above.

Your physician will tell you that certain nervous disturbances, specific cases of overweight, lowered mental activity and enlarged thyroid glands are also due, in part at least, to a deficiency of iodine in the blood stream.

Used Also In Shampoo Rinse

If you find your hair pretty lifeless and falling out you might determine if you are lacking iodine. A routine blood test, or metabolism will indicate this. Some doctors prescribe a drop of iodine in one half glass of water daily until enough iodine foods are consumed to meet the deficiency, but your physician will have to be consulted about this treatment.

Of course keeping your scalp meticulously clean and massaged, and your hair well brushed, adds greatly to hair beauty. Most women require a soap shampoo every two weeks, but one every three weeks is sufficient if your scalp is cleansed scientifically with tonic and brushing between shampoos. Some women use several drops of



Joan Leslie counteracts the effect of tight hats and stuffy rooms on her lovely red-gold hair. She takes her hair brush out to the back yard of her home and brushes up and out, from roots to ends, letting it blow in the breeze as she brushes.

iodine in their last rinsing water and feel that it is beautifying to the hair. To two quarts of rinsing water add not more than five or six drops of iodine from a glass dropper. Mix it well before pouring it through the hair.

Proper Diet Essential

We are told repeatedly by medical men and nutritionists that our

physical beauty is most dependent upon a balanced diet. Too few women know the meaning of "a balanced diet" and do not trouble to learn which foods, and in what combinations, the body requires to keep healthy to give beauty to skin, hair, teeth, and eyes.

It would be wise for these women to start a beauty notebook now, writing down that iodine foods assist in keeping hair lovely!

Grow Strongly Beautiful

One wonders how many women could pass a physical examination if all were called to enlist in the service of our country.

Newspapers tell us that an alarming percentage of American young men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-five cannot meet physical requirements. If male youth is so far from being normally healthy I cannot help but wonder about the physical fitness of women.

There are many contributing reasons why this has happened, but it is none the less alarming to find physical unfitness so prevalent in the age group which should be the strongest. Perhaps if man is to be healthy, strong and happy he should be denied those luxuries which we consider essential to our everyday living. And that brings me right to a point.

Women Are Weak Willed

A very stupid social code has weakened many women. I refer

to those "niceties" which are religiously adhered to by fashionable ladies—one must not carry bundles, let the stores deliver them; one must not be seen walking to an appointment, one must arrive in a taxi or a car; one must not open a window or a door, or lift any object of weight if a man is available to lift it; one must not be seen carrying a suitcase if a coolie is about; one must be assisted in and out of buses, cars and taxis by one's escort; one must have an amah for one's child; in fact one must not do anything which would rob one of an expensive, pampered, clinging-vine halo! Such a feminine code is not only unhealthy but it is degenerating!

Meeting A Challenge

When major catastrophes strike us we learn how much we can take. Just look at the women in England. Fortunately for them they have never "softened" quite as much as have Hong Kong women. They now are doing the work of

men—putting in grilling hours of hard work, bearing up under horrifying conditions which we in this country cannot even imagine, and discovering they not only have two reserves of strength but three, four and five.

We must grow strong and by growing strong we will grow more beautiful. The woman who must walk to her appointments, who does carry her bundles, who carries her own bags is better off than her pampered sisters, who have grown weak willed and weak in body. Of course there is a limit, but many of us have never begun to tap the energy we have waiting for use.

A wise prophet once horrified a world by loudly stating that war would always be a necessity because man grows weak and ill when he has nothing left to fight for. But there is some truth in his statement—for too many luxuries are crippling, class-consciousness is degrading and unused bodies grow unhealthy. War is a challenge to strength.

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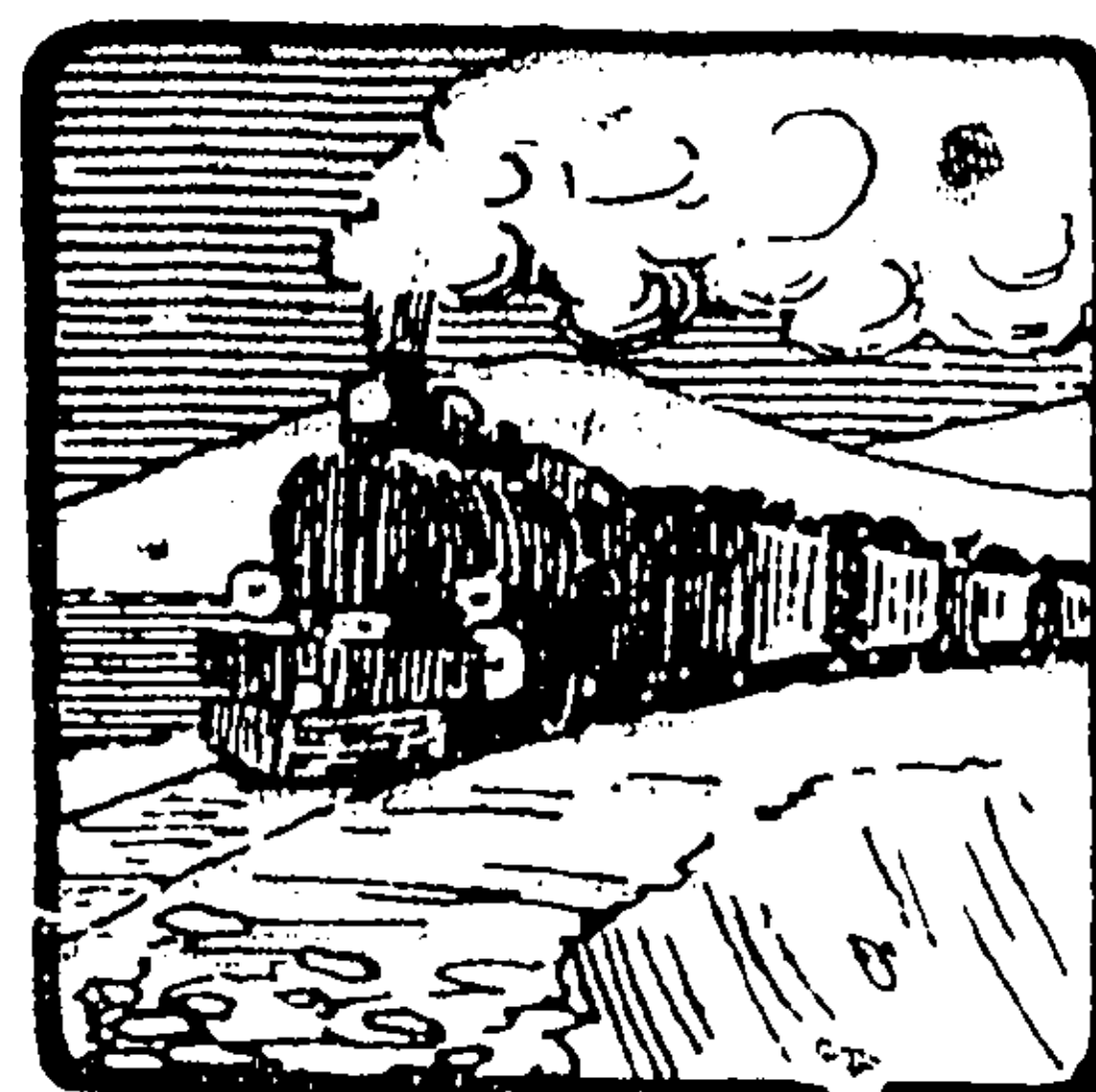
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In The Fields Of Sport



The Interport game between a Macao XI and the Eastern F.C. in progress. An Eastern player makes a high jump to clear.



O'Regan (Navy) clearing from Hau Ching-to and Cheung Kam-hoi (Eastern) in the Senior League match on Sunday. Eastern's 2-0 victory put them at the head of the table.



Babies from 10 days to 3 years of age are cared for in this orphanage; bombs struck the sanctuary which is only ten yards away from these babies' dormitory. None of the babies received injuries. Photo shows orphans playing at their tables, with the damaged sanctuary in the background. (Copyright, Fox).



A line-out in the rugby game at Sookunpoo on Saturday last between Combined Volunteers and Combined Services.

(Right)—At this Red Cross convalescent home for soldiers "somewhere in Cheshire" wounded and sick soldiers are now enjoying their convalescence in beautiful surroundings. Photo shows convalescent soldiers admiring the view. (Copyright, Fox).



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LANDSLIDES SABOTAGE IN NORWAY

LANDSLIDES IN Western Norway, which are believed to have been started by a secret organisation of patriotic Norwegians to hamper the German occupying forces and provoke unrest, are reported in the Stockholm newspapers.

The fact that a number of them occurred at the same hour would seem to indicate clearly that they were no accident of nature.

If further confirmation were needed that these landslides are one of the most remarkable efforts at sabotage on record, it is to be found in the fact that both the Norwegian police and the German military authorities have already made a number of arrests.

Moreover, Nazi troops in the region affected, where a state of siege has been declared, have been put on a war footing and reinforcements are being rushed up from Oslo. Soldiers and policemen have taken charge of the damaged highways. They are stopping and searching all motor-cars and travellers.

It is probable that the recent rains and slight snowfall softened the ground sufficiently for it to be easy to start these landslides by exploding small quantities of dynamite.

The railway between Oslo and Bergen has been disrupted in no fewer than 10 places. The State highway along Hardangerfjord and Firdsfjord is also damaged and will take a long time to repair.

NURSES SAVE 80 CHILDREN

Nurses carried about eighty children from a Bristol children's hospital a quarter of a mile through a recent night's blitz to another hospital, then returned for one who had been missed.

"When we heard the whistle of the first bombs that fell," said Nurse Osborne, "we shifted all the children—about eighty of them—from the top wards to a ground-floor corridor."

"Then there was a terrific crash as a very heavy bomb—some said that it was an aerial torpedo—hurtled down through the operating theatre and wrecked the entire hospital."

Not Frightened

"We were all a bit dazed, but I do not think we were frightened. Our matron, Miss Ellis, was quite calm throughout. She inspired us all. She was wonderful."

"She said: 'We must get the children out of here, so we each picked up as many as we could carry in a cot and ran to another Bristol hospital a quarter of a mile away.'"

"We had a shock when we counted the children and found one was missing, but some of us ran back and found him, a little two-year-old, under a mackintosh in the doctors' room. He was quite all right."

The food situation in Bristol is stated to be not serious, nor the casualties heavy.

FOUGHT IN LAST WAR AT 13: HERE AGAIN

The youngest Canadian to fight in the last war is serving the Empire again.

He is Quartermaster-Sergeant D. Murdoch, of the Royal Canadian Engineers, now in England with his unit.

In the Great War he was a sailor. He joined the Navy in 1916, when he was thirteen years and ten months.

"I was driving along the street and the traffic lights were at red. I drew up, saw a recruiting poster, got out of the car and enlisted. If the traffic lights had been at green, I should not have been here now," said the young Canadian.

City Sheriff Killed.—Mr. G. Percy Trenham, building contractor and engineer, who was elected a sheriff of the City of London at the end of June, was killed in a recent air raid. Mr. Trenham was a liveryman of five City companies.

BRITAIN'S FIRST SHELTER CHAPLAIN

Britain's first official Honorary Shelter Chaplain has been appointed by a committee of Romford (Essex) Borough Council.

He is the Rev. Wilson Bridge, thirty-five-year-old Congregational minister.

He originally undertook the job without official status because, as he explains, "It was the wish of the people. I saw the job there to do, so began to do it. And it is unpaid."

Col. de Wiart, V.C., who commanded the Allied Forces in Norway, is gazetted temporary major-general.

POSSESSED BY "MATRIMONY MANIA"

Jack Barrasford, aged forty-five, manager of a Carlisle cinema, was sentenced at the Old Bailey to twenty-one months' imprisonment for bigamously marrying two girls.

He was stated to have been convicted of bigamy in 1936.

The Recorder (Sir Gerald Dodson) told Barrasford that he seemed to have an "inordinate appetite" for matrimony. "Indeed," he added, "matrimony has become a mania."

SOUND ARGUMENT!

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A TON OF TALK.

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riding surface that's tough and long wearing. The sidewall areas are stronger, too, giving greater protection against bursts and bruises. It has a new Supertwist cord body. And — by a re-arrangement of the diamond shaped blocks, the All-Weather Tread has been further improved — for resistance to skids — for safe, sure-footed traction. Yet, when you fit a set of these handsome new DeLuxe All-Weather Tread tyres, you pay nothing extra — no more than you're accustomed to paying for good tyres.



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BANK HOLIDAYS

The EXCHANGE BANKS will OPEN at 9.30 A.M. and will CLOSE at 12 Noon for the Transaction of Exchange Business on MONDAY and TUESDAY, the 17th and 18th February, (Race Meeting)

Hong Kong, 14th Feb., 1941.

THE "STAR" FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED

Notice to Shareholders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FORTY-THIRD ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF THIS COMPANY will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., on FRIDAY, the 28th February, 1941, at 11.00 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1940.

The Register of Shares of the Company will be CLOSED from Wednesday, the 19th February, 1941, to Friday, the 28th February, 1941, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

C. M. MANNERS,
Secretary & Manager.

Hong Kong, 12th Feb., 1941.

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at the Head Office of the Corporation, No. 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, on WEDNESDAY, the 20th February, 1941, at Noon for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1940.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be closed from Thursday, the 13th February to Wednesday, the 26th February, 1941 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

V. M. GRAYBURN,
Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, 7th February, 1941.

FOR SALE

HONG KONG DOLLAR DIRECTORY 1941 EDITION.—On sale at all Bookstalls and at the Offices of the Publishers, Windsor House, Des Voeux Road, Central. Telephone: 20022 & 20011.

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NOTICE

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS DURING THE RACES

1. It is hereby notified that on the days fixed for the Annual Race Meeting at Wong-Nei-Chong (February 15th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 22nd), the following Regulations, under Ordinance No. 2 of 1869, will be in force:—

- All vehicles going to the Races at Wong-Nei-Chong will proceed clockwise round Happy Valley via Wong-Nei-Chong Road to the entrance gates.
- Vehicles must proceed at a slow speed in the vicinity of the Race Course.
- Vehicles will be parked in the vicinity of the Race Course as directed by the Police on duty.
- Dogs are not allowed on or near the Race Course. Any dog found straying on or near the Race Course is liable to be destroyed.

Note.—Kennedy Road will be open to light motor traffic from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

11. Extra Race Meeting during the year 1941—On days fixed for Extra Race Meetings.

One way traffic will be enforced in Wong-Nei-Chong Road. Kennedy Road will not be open to motor traffic.

PARKING OF CARS AT THE RACE COURSE

- The Stand at the public entrance is reserved for Jockey Club Stewards and Officials only.
- Morrison Hill parking ground opposite Civil Service Club and Village Road reserved for Private Cars.
- Ventris Road reserved for Public Cars.

C. G. PERDUE,
Ag. Commissioner of Police.
Hong Kong, 14th February, 1941.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

FRIDAY, 14th February, 1941 commencing at 2.30 p.m. at their Sales Room,

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Auctioneers,
Hong Kong, 11th February, 1941.

WARNING

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No one is authorised to visit offices and collect money on behalf of this publication.

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BRIDGE NOTES

CRIME DOESN'T PAY! NO. 30

By The Four Aces

The sleuths of our crime series may have a little trouble with today's study in Bridge criminology:

South, Dealer
East-West vulnerable
North-South part score 30

South: ♠ K 9, ♥ A Q 10 5, ♦ Q 10 8 4, ♣ A J 9
North: ♠ J 10 5, ♥ 2, ♦ J 6, ♣ 10 7 6 5
West: ♠ 6 2, ♥ K 9 8 7, ♦ K 7 6 3, ♣ K
East: ♠ A Q 8 7 4 3, ♥ J 6, ♦ A 9 2, ♣ Q 8

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2NT	3♥
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West opened the deuce of hearts, dummy winning with the Ace. After drawing three rounds of trumps, South led

the Jack of hearts. East took his King and returned a heart for lack of anything more promising. South discarded two diamonds, returned to his hand via the diamond Ace, and led the Queen of clubs. When this was finessed, East won his blank King; but South won the rest, making his contract with two overtricks.

The evidence is all in, and you should be aware of the heinous crime that was committed. See if you can spot the crime and the criminal before you read on.

South was the criminal, and his crime occurred during the bidding. He should have passed East's horrible vulnerable bid of three hearts to North; and North would have doubled with great gusto. Correct defence would then have held East to three tricks, for a penalty of 1,700 points!

South attempted to justify his criminal bid of three spades by pointing out that he had a good rebiddable spade suit and that the bid was enough for game. Furthermore, he added, North might be "stuck" for a bid if unable to double three hearts. North justly replied that he couldn't have a hand which was worth two no-trump but not worth either a double of three hearts or some rebid. This fact that South's bid was enough for game was absolutely irrelevant. The penalty double was worth four times as much as the game!

Yesterday you were Oswald Jacoby's partner and, with help, their side vulnerable, you held:

South: ♠ J 3, ♥ K J 6, ♦ K Q 4 2, ♣ Q J 7 3
North: ♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥ A, ♦ A, ♣ A

The bidding:
You: Pass, Partner: Pass, Jacoby: 1♠, Opponent: Pass (7).

ANSWER: Bid two diamonds. If your partner has a legitimate opening bid (as is likely) he will rebid; and you can then make a strong bid. It is wise to allow leeway to partner's third-hand bid, since it may not be altogether sound.

Score: 100% for two diamonds; 90% for two clubs; 80% for two no-trump; 0 for any other bid.

Question No. 639

Today you are the dealer and hold the following hand:

South: ♠ K Q J 10 9, ♥ K 8 5 3, ♦ Q J 7, ♣ A

What do you bid? (Answer

To-morrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

SHOT WIFE — DIED IN REMORSE

An inquest jury decided that an R.N.R. commander shot his wife dead with a revolver he thought was unloaded, and then killed himself with the revolver through remorse.

Evidence was given that he drank excessively and had fits of temper during which he struck his wife.

The inquest was on Commander Wilfred Stanfield, R.N.R., aged forty-seven, and his wife, Louise, aged forty-three, who were shot in their home in Wilton-crescent Shirkley, Southampton. The verdicts were Manslaughter and Suicide.

A friend, Mrs. Cissie Julia Blake, said that she was called to the house by Mrs. Stanfield. Commander Stanfield was standing before the fire, the knuckle of one of his hands was injured. His wife's mouth was bleeding.

"I Will"

Mrs. Stanfield said: "Look what he has done. He says he will shoot me." Commander Stanfield said: "I will."

Mrs. Blake said she told the commander not to be foolish, but he went upstairs and rummaged in drawers.

She told Mrs. Stanfield to come to her house.

"I followed her into the hall and saw her on the stairs," said Mrs. Blake. "I heard her cry, 'Oh, Wilf.' She turned and I opened the front door to run out. I heard a shot and a fall, and then a second shot and a thud."

A police officer suggested that Commander Stanfield might have "broken" his revolver to unload it, but that only four of the cartridges might have been ejected, leaving two in the chamber without his knowledge.

The commander was a former chief officer of the liner Empress of Britain.

WARN HUNS TO IMPROVE CAMPS

A major general wants Britain to warn Germany that unless conditions are improved in camps for prisoners of war, German captives in England will be treated in the same way.

He is Sir Alfred Knox, Conservative M.P. for Wycombe.

Sir Alfred will ask Mr. Eden, the War Minister, if he knows that British prisoners in Oflag VII C (a notorious internment camp) are sleeping twenty-seven in a room 16 to 17 ft. square.



After a hard day at work the father who must play Santa Claus wishes the nightmare would end.

CHAMBERLAIN'S REASON FOR BECOMING M.P.

The desire to improve conditions of life for the people was the reason why the late Mr. Neville Chamberlain entered Parliament.

This was stated in a letter which Mrs. Chamberlain sent to the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor W. Martineau, thanking him for a message of condolence sent on behalf of the City Council and people of Birmingham on the death of her husband.

"He always looked back to his years on the Council as some of the happiest in his life," she wrote. "I remember that the two committees on which he elected to serve when he first entered the Council were those then known as the Health and Housing Committee and the Town Planning Committee."

"It was the experience and insight gained on those committees which strengthened his passionate desire to improve the conditions of life for the people."

"It was this desire which caused him to enter Parliament and subsequently to devote himself to his work as Minister of Health."

Airmen Refused Accommodation.—Richard Johnston Ashton, and his wife, Annie Berenice Ashton proprietors of the Viaduct Hotel, Carlisle, were fined £3 at Carlisle for refusing accommodation to four airmen who were travelling North.

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



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LOCAL POLO

The first game in an American Polo tournament for the "Lady Stubbs Cup" was played at Boundary Street on Wednesday, when "A" team (Capt. T. W. Chattey, Col. D. Way, Major W. Morgan and Lieut. Hancock) beat "S" team (Capt. Forrester, Mr. Bousfield, Capt. W. H. Chattey and Capt. Atkinson) by six goals to four.

To-day, weather permitting, two games will be played, "A" versus "D" at 4.15 p.m. and "B" versus "C" at 5.15 p.m.

The "B" and "D" teams are as follows:

"B"—Capt. Monro, Major Hunt, Mr. Stanton and Mr. Lewis.

"D"—Lieut. Feilden, Major Penfold, Major Trevor and Captain Guest.

JUNIOR CHESS TITLE

Three matches in the first round of the junior chess championship were held yesterday at the Peninsula Hotel when W. Lee beat A. Morton; V. V. Kolatchoff beat J. H. Almeida; and J. Grefalda beat R. C. Gardner.

In the senior tournament, G. S. Coxhead beat D. E. de Carvalho, former champion.

KING'S COLLEGE SPORTS

The eleventh annual athletic meeting of King's College will be held on the South China track at Caroline Hill on February 28, commencing at 1.30 p.m. Mrs. J. J. Ferguson will present the prizes.



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Strike Spreads To S'hai's Red Light Zone

SHANGHAI'S FAMED "red-light district" in the vicinity of Yu Ya Ching and Foochow Roads faces a black-out unless the 350-odd sing-song house operators succeed in reaching an agreement with their 1,500 employees over the salary question.

The dispute brewing for nearly a week came to a head recently when a representative of the operators told the employers that their demand for a 100 per cent pay increase had been rejected "without reservation."

Among workers employed by sing-song house are a number of ricksha pullers whose duty it is to chauffeur the entertainers to their "clients", personal maids of the entertainers, cooks and servants of the houses.

In rejecting the workers' demands, the employers pointed out that most of the earnings come in tips given them by customers. Ever since the sing-song house became an established institution as a place of entertainment, it was said, workers employed at the houses are either not paid a regular monthly salary at all or are paid only nominal wages.

The workers concerned were reported undecided whether they would immediately go on strike. Should a strike be declared, the most hard-hit parties will be restaurants and hotels in the downtown district where fun-makers gather to be entertained by the sing-song girls.

£2,500 IN SHELTER

When Stanley Thomas Hammond, 23, a soldier, was charged at Tottenham with stealing £2,500 from Mrs. Annie Young, a widow, Newton Road, Tottenham, Mrs. Young said the money was part of £3,000, her life savings, which it was her practice to take with her to a public air-raid shelter every night.

Hammond, a friend of her son,

used to return home with her in the early hours, and on Oct. 22, when he did so, she put the attache case containing the money in a back room and left the house. On her return the £2,500 was missing. Hammond was committed for trial.

ARE YOUR FOLKS ABROAD GETTING ALL THE HONG KONG NEWS?

Try as you do, you are unable to remember, let alone afford the time to write at such length, all that happens in this colony of ours. Never mind, for 25 cents each Wednesday, you can send them all the local news in addition to your own letters. Let us help you to keep them fully posted regarding local activities.

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from "The China Mail" and
"The Hong Kong Sunday Herald")

Windsor House. Telephone 20022

INTERPORT HOCKEY PRACTICE

By "Sportshawk"

The Colony Interport Probables were fully extended by the Combined Police yesterday at King's Park in a practice hockey game which resulted in a goalless draw.

The Probables missed the services of 2/Lt. Cote on the right-wing, which position was taken over by H. L. Ozorio, while the Police were at full strength, with the exception of Brown, who played for the Probables.

The game was played at a fast pace and on some occasions good movements were witnessed.

Benwell showed his usual steady form between the sticks, especially in the first half, when he spoiled several Police raids with his timely interceptions.

J. Gonsalves was the better of the two Probables backs, although he was guilty in some instances of mis-hitting; he covered Bond, who was shaky, well.

Read At His Best

The pivot, W. A. Reed, was at his best, while R. Marques did well at right-half.

Among the forwards, E. Fowler and T. Whitley fully vindicated their selection. They combined very well, particularly in the second half.

Brown, on the left-wing, though not impressive, showed a good turn of speed and Rothwell, the Police right-half, was unable to check him.

For Police, Man Singh was safe in defence, Gough, who worked very hard throughout, distinguished himself at the pivotal position, while Parker and Howlett were impressive in the attack.

On the whole, the Police displayed better combination than the Probables, who were especially weak in taking short-corners.

PROBABLES:—Benwell, Bond and J. Gonsalves; R. Marques, W. A. Reed and N. Whitley; H. L. Ozorio, T. Whitley, G. Singh, E. Fowler and Brown.

POLICE:—Nalwant Singh; Man Singh and Blackburn; Rothwell, Gough and Hayward; Teja Singh, Howlett, Jesbir Singh, Parker and Narwant Singh.

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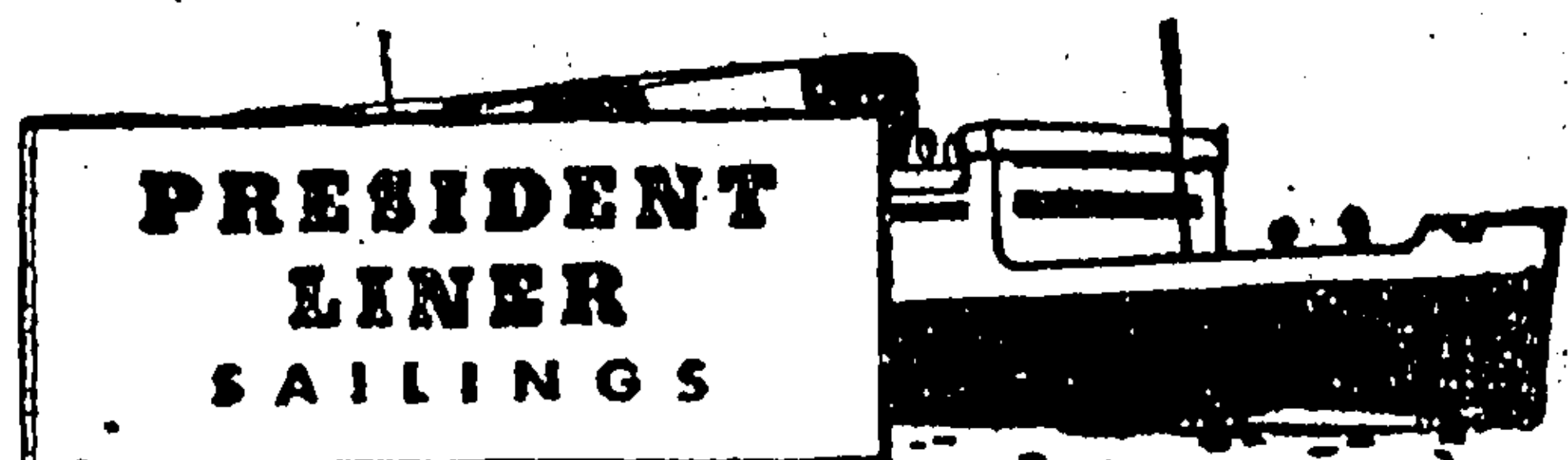
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RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Interces-

sion.

12.30 p.m.—Songs by Leslie Hutchinson

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Says My Heart (film 'Cocoanut

Grove'); Two Bouquets (film

'Kickin' the Moon Around'); I Won't

Tell A Soul (Parker-Charles).

12.40 p.m.—Film Selections.

1.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Wea-

ther Report.

1.03 p.m.—Compositions of Mozart.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press, Wea-

ther Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Variety.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quota-

tions.

6.32 p.m.—The Mills Brothers, Jose-

phine Baker and Val Rosing in

Variety.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of

the Hour.

7.30 p.m.—A Schubert Programme.

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather

Report and Announcements.

8.03 p.m.—An hour of Popular Classics.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News &

News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: 'Books

and People'.

9.45 p.m.—Max Miller in the Theatre.

10.06 p.m.—Musical Comedy Selections.

The Vagabond King—Selection

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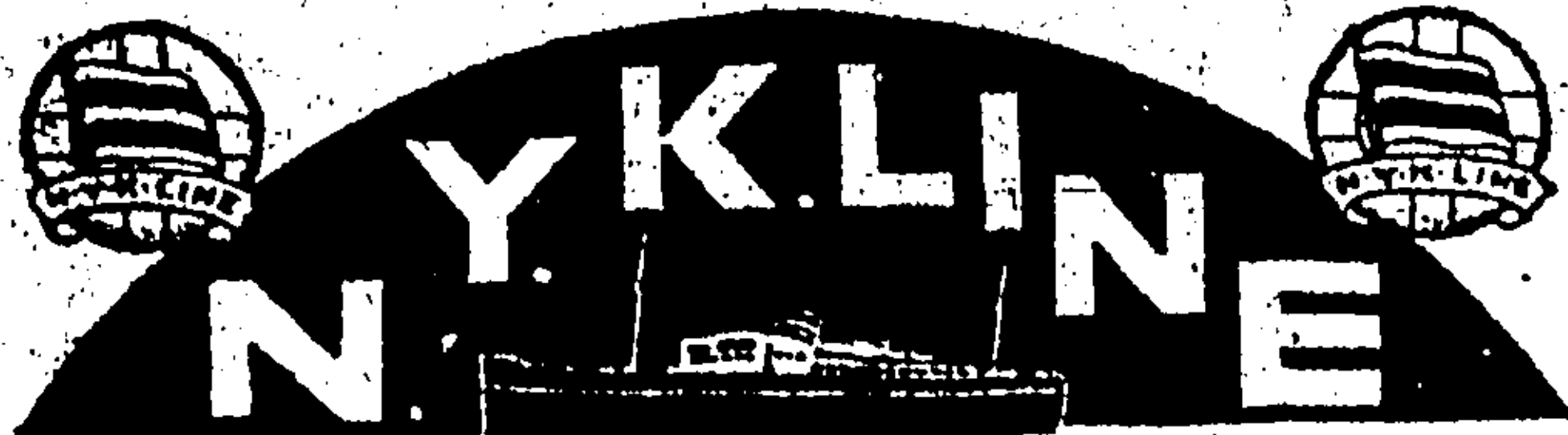
Running Riot—Selection Debroy

Somers Band.

10.30 p.m.—Dance Music by Ambrose

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11.00 p.m.—Close down.



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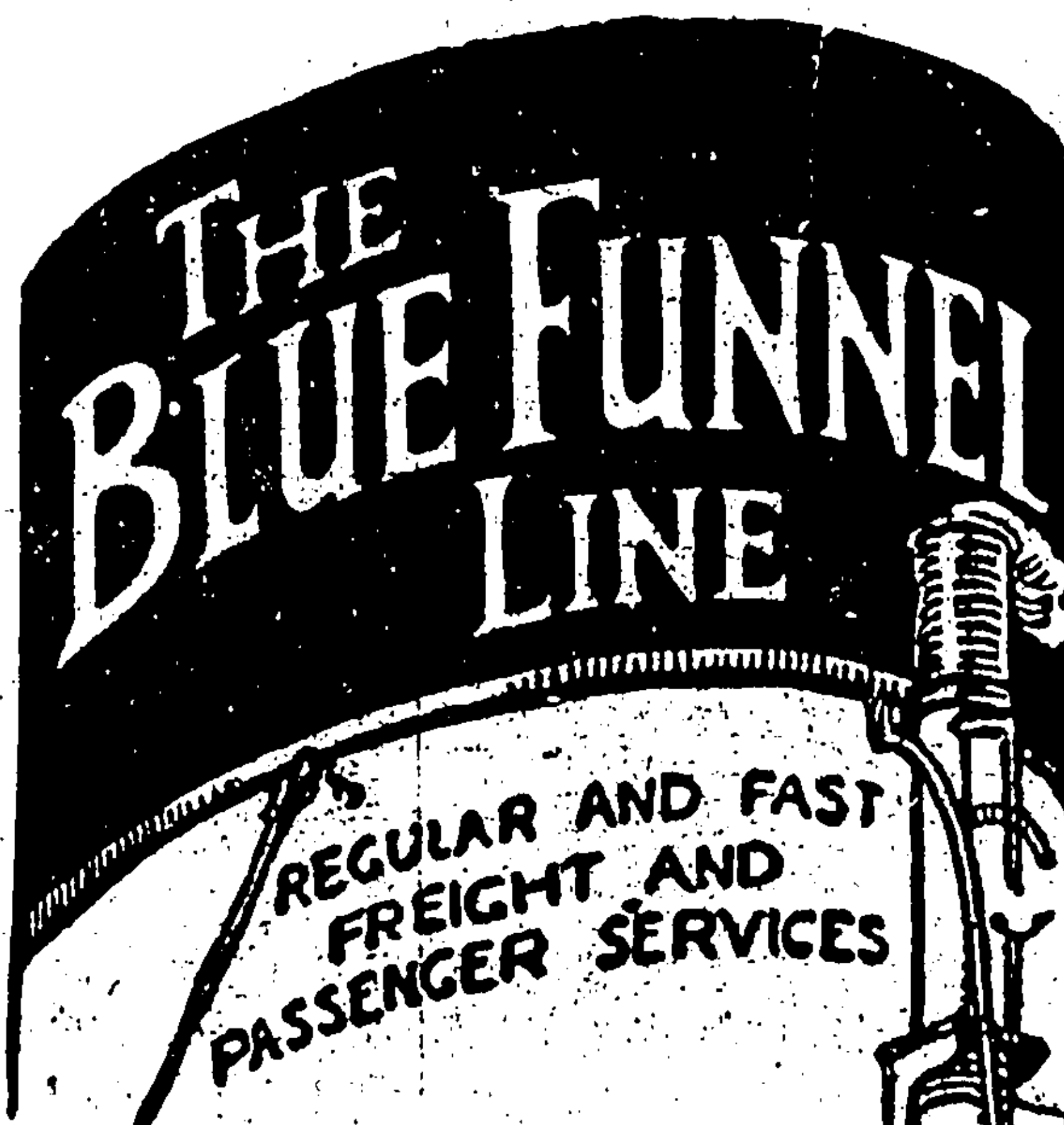
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PROSPECTS FOR FIRST DAY OF ANNUAL MEETING DISCUSSED

Lovelylight Should Win The Maiden Stakes Promise of Charlesber, Oolong, Velvetlight And Iron Beauty

By "Rapier"

THE STAGE IS ALL SET FOR THE 1941 ANNUAL RACING CARNIVAL UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, WHICH STARTS AT 11.00 A.M. TO-MORROW.

Racing in the Colony has gradually been attracting more and more attention, and interest this year has been greatly enhanced by the phenomenal demand for tickets in connection with the Special Dollar Sweep, which will be decided on the Rooty-Hill Derby.

The programme for to-morrow will consist of 12 events, most interesting of which should be the Challenge Cup, the Maidens, the three sections of the Sydney Maiden Stakes and Trial Plate.

RACE NO. 1: CHALLENGE CUP 1-3/4 MILES

The curtain will rise on this long-distance event, confined to China Ponies. In the corresponding race last year there was a brilliant finish, Navylight, ably ridden by Mr. "Boogie" Moller, just managing to snatch a victory from Confusion Bay (Mr. Black) by a neck.

To-morrow, the Cere Stable, represented by Navylight, will make an effort to win this Cup outright. This pony's chances, however, seem rather remote as it will have to reckon with Burford (Mr. S. W. Tang) and Confusion Bay (Mr. H. C. Pih).

On the strength of its win in the Hong Kong Autumn Champions (1-1/4 miles) in record time, Confusion Bay would seem to be the logical choice, as it is fighting fit at the moment but from my observations Burford has shown some improvement in form, and I shall not be surprised if it avenges its defeat at the hands of Confusion Bay.

This gruelling race should be between Confusion Bay and Burford, with Navylight a possible for a place. In any event it should be a grand race.

RACE NO. 2: SYDNEY MAIDEN STAKES (FIRST SECTION) 6 FURLONGS

This race will be contested by the first batch of new Australian Subscription Griffins, and from among the ponies entered I think the following are about the best, after having seen them in training for some time past:—

Endeavour (Mr. Wei).
Royal Sovereign (Mr. Proulx).
Strathalbyn (Mr. Black).
Sydney Diamond (Mr. Chang).
United Express (Mr. Ip Kul Ying).

Endeavour has already established itself as a firm favourite for the Rooty-Hill Derby, and if it strips for this event, it should win comfortably. It is possible, however, that it may be reserved for the Australian Valley Stakes later in the day as the mile distance is more to its liking.

If Endeavour does not accept here, I would place Sydney Diamond as the next best, with United Express as the potential challenger, in view of its recent run over the mile in 1.55.1, with a last quarter of 29.

This pony is essentially a sprinter, and if it does not win here it should be borne in mind for future races over shorter distances.

Strathalbyn is another sprinter and, with Mr. Black off top, it will have to be considered a possible winner. Royal Sovereign has not shown what it is actually capable of doing; in training it completed the mile in 2.24.4 with a last quarter of 26.4. It may turn out to be a good short distance pony, and with Mr. Proulx on top it should not be far away at the finish. However, taking everything into consideration, I nominate Endeavour (if started) to win, with Sydney Diamond, United Express and Strathalbyn following in the order named.

RACE NO. 3: AUSTRAL VALLEY STAKES: ONE MILE

This race will serve to introduce the new Australian Griffins

to the racing public, and, based on training performances, I think the winner will come from one of the following:—

Colooma (Mr. Black).
Distant View (Mr. Pih).
First Love (Mr. S. C. Liang).
King's Welcome (Mr. Needa).
With Distant View, Mr. Pih has a great opportunity of winning this race, but he may expect strong opposition from either King's Welcome or Colooma, both of which are capable of giving Distant View a good fight.

First Love is also considered good enough to extend those named above, and it may cause an upset here.

I expect to see the finish in the following order:—Distant View, King's Welcome and Colooma.

RACE NO. 4: SYDNEY MAIDEN STAKES (SECOND SECTION) In this race for new Australian Subscription Griffins, the following should attract the most attention:—

Black Seal (Mr. Chao).
Castle Hill (Mr. Black).
Santa-Anita (Mr. Liang).
Tobaccoship (Mr. P. P. Botelho).
Zadderday (Mr. Needa).

Santa-Anita is greatly fancied in view of its convincing gallop over the Champions distance in 2.26.3, but on the other hand Black Seal is also known to have done a good gallop over the Derby Distance. Castle Hill should also have something to say at the finish, while Tobaccoship and Zadderday are quite fast over sprint distances.

I nominate Santa-Anita to win, with Black Seal second and Castle Hill third.

RACE NO. 5: MAIDEN STAKES: SIX FURLONGS

The Maiden Stakes last year was won by the Cere Stable, whose representative Spiclight covered the six furlongs in record time. I am afraid that this year's finish will be another tame affair.

With the exception of Oolong, belonging to T. K. Li, I fail to see how any of the other ponies can possibly extend Lovelylight (Mr. Noodt) and Glosslight (Mr. Moller), both from the Cere Stable. It is possible that Oolong will be reserved for the Trial Plate, in which event Lovelylight and Glosslight are likely to come in first and second, with Eve of Grandeur and Odeon fighting out the third place.

RACE NO. 6: AUSTRAL MAIDEN STAKES: SIX FURLONGS

This is a sprint event for the new Australian Griffins, and out of the 36 ponies drawn for in this section, I do not think we need look further than the following for the eventual winner:—

Canberra (Mr. Black).
Hascossay (Mr. Davis).
Fleetwing (Mr. Poy).
National Reform (Mr. Tao).
Mountain View (Mr. Pih).

Canberra is regarded in certain quarters as the likely winner, and I rather like it as it has the stamp of a good pony.

It may, however, meet with stern opposition from Hascossay, which is speedy over this distance.

Much as I like Fleetwing and Mountain View, I do not think they will be fast enough here, but bear them in mind for the longer races.

National Reform is full of life, and once on the move it will not be easy to overtake.

My nominations, accordingly, are Canberra, Hascossay and National Reform.

RACE NO. 7: CORAL HANDICAP: ONE MILE

This is the first leg of the "Daily Double", confined to Australian Subscription griffins of previous years. It looks as if Sapper should win here, with Far View furnishing the opposition. Ridden by Mr. Davis, Sapper won the Queensland Autumn Champions at the Thirteenth Extra Race Meeting, and, as it is in fine shape at the moment, I recommend it to win.

Far View, although running unplaced in the Fremantle St. Leger at the Tenth Extra Race Meeting, should come in second as it is also in good condition, while the third place should be filled by Baffin Bay (Mr. Needa).

RACE NO. 8: AUSTRAL TRIAL PLATE: 1-3/4 MILES

This race will, no doubt, serve as a guide towards picking the ultimate winner of the Austral Derby, and, judging from the entries, I should not be far wrong in stating that the race will be fought out between the following:—

Marsh Warbler (Mr. Black).
Nomine Poenae (Mr. Chao).
Prairie View (Mr. Pih).

Marsh Warbler has been consistently trained for this distance, and as it has invariably returned good times, it is strongly fancied to win. I think it will meet with strong opposition from Prairie View, for although this pony has not been much in the limelight over this distance, it is quite capable of winning.

Nomine Poenae has been whispered as the "dark horse" in this race, and for those who are prepared to take the risk, a bet each way may turn out to be profitable. I also recommend The Nineteenth Hole for consideration.

RACE NO. 9: SYDNEY MAIDEN

THE BIG SWEEP

Sales in the Big Sweep organised by Hong Kong Jockey Club on the Rooty-Hill Derby, at 9.30 this morning had reached 854,000 and it is fairly safe to say the first prize will be worth over \$400,000.

STAKES: (THIRD SECTION): SIX FURLONGS

This is another sprint event for the third section of the new Australian Subs., and, on their training form, I am sure the following will be prominent at the finish:—

Bendemeer.
Manhattan (Mr. Hearne).
National Welfare (Mr. Tao).
Snow White (Mr. Pih).
Twinkling Star (Mr. Craven).
Vitamin M (Mr. Black).

I consider Vitamin M to be the best here, and in my estimation it should win comfortably, with Manhattan and National Welfare fighting it out for the other places.

I should state, however, that Bendemeer, if given a good jockey, will be dangerous and for those who are looking for a long shot I recommend this pony.

Snow White and Twinkling Star are also good over this distance.

This is the second leg of the "Daily Double"

RACE NO. 10: TRIAL PLATE: 1-3/4 MILES

Apart from Lovelylight, which is going out in the Maidens instead of this event, the result of this race should give an indication regarding the likely winner of the Hong Kong Derby.

The following will probably face the starter:—

Charlesber (Mr. Chao).
Eve of Grandeur (Mr. Davis).
Lovely View (Mr. Pih).
Oolong (Mr. Needa).
Rosylight (Mr. Moller).
Velvetlight (Mr. Noodt).
Iron Beauty (Mr. Wei).

I do not think we need look further than Charlesber, Oolong, Velvetlight and Iron Beauty for the eventual winner. Charlesber has been properly tuned up for this meeting, having had the benefit of a year's training, and I feel it will have to be seriously considered for the Derby.

Oolong has been talked about as a pony likely to win the Blue Riband; I like the way it moves, while Velvetlight has been improving since its last gallop with

its stablemate on January 22, over the Derby distance in 3.35 with a last quarter of 30.1. However, there was something in its finish which did not appeal to me.

Iron Beauty has not had a decent gallop so far, but judging from the way it moved it appears to have talent which has not yet been properly developed.

RACE NO. 11: BENDIGO HANDICAP: FROM THE TWO MILE POST ONCE ROUND AND IN

This race is confined to "B" Class, Australian Subscription griffins and judging from the entries, I think the finish will be fought out between the following ponies:—

Criffel (Mr. Black).
Fair Chance (Mr. Wei).
Rowan (Mr. Hearne).
Springhurst (Mr. Poy).
Vixen Tor (Mr. Noodt).

Criffel, which won the Dilatory Handicap at the 13th Extra Meeting over the mile, is the best recommendation for a win here. I expect it to receive stiff opposition from Vixen Tor, which it beat by a short head in the race referred to above. Vixen Tor is in fine condition at the moment.

Fair Chance, with a change of jockey in Mr. Wei, should be borne in mind, and Rowan and Springhurst have shown improvement and should not be disregarded.

RACE NO. 12: AUSTRALIAN VALLEY STAKES: ONE MILE

The last race of the day will be contested by Australian Subscription ponies of 1941. I need only refer to ponies that have done well in morning training, and I believe that the winner will come from one of the following, omitting probable starters in previous races:—

A Surprising Time (Mr. Hobden).
Buckfastleigh (Mr. Woo).
Endeavour (Mr. Wei).
King's Flight (Mr. Needa).
Bendigo (Mr. Chao).
Seal River (Mr. Black).

Endeavour is easily the best of this bunch, and I have no doubt that it will win.

A Surprising Time has done well in training, when it was clocked over the Champions distance in 2.28.1 and, judging from that performance, it should take second place, leaving King's Flight and Seal River to fight out the third place.

For an outsider I recommend Buckfastleigh, which has always impressed me with its fine movement.



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P. S. Bun and M. S. Lim (University "A")	4	1	5
M. P. Young and Y. P. Young (University "B")	6	1	5
C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y")	9	4	5
C. Au and F. Koh (Chinese "Y")	6	2	4
J. J. Remedios and H. F. Goncalves (Recreio)	9	5	4
C. K. Lee and S. L. Yung (University "B")	1	0	3
T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung (University "B")	6	3	3
M. A. Oliveira and A. M. Rodrigues (Recreio)	9	6	3
F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y")	12	9	3
P. H. Hon and H. F. Chiu (University "A")	1	1	1
C. K. Cheuk and K. B. Lin (University "B")	3	1	1
S. Amplanavan and A. P. Lee (University "B")	3	1	2
M. P. Young and Y. P. Young (University "A")	3	1	2
P. H. Wong and P. C. Lau (Chinese "Y")	6	4	2
L. A. Carvalho and A. M. Silva (Recreio)	9	7	2

"B" Division

	P	L	W
A. L. Fisher and P. Wynter-Blyth (K.C.C.)	18	2	16
E. F. Fincher and H. Kew (St. Andrew's)	15	2	13
N. L. Smith and P. Wilson (St. John's)	12	0	12
S. P. Chan and K. J. Attwell (King's)	12	0	12
C. F. Chiu and S. C. Liang (Chung Wah)	12	2	10
H. Eardley and D. Kwok (St. John's)	9	0	9
W. Gillies and L. Gordon (Police)	18	9	9
W. H. Choy and W. C. Choy (Chung Wah)	9	1	8
P. C. Leung and K. F. Chiu (Chung Wah)	12	4	8
Peter Lo and J. Tsang (Kowloon Tong)	15	7	8
K. L. Lui and W. C. Chung (King's)	9	2	7
D. M. Xavier and S. A. Rum-Jahn (V.R.C.)	12	5	7
T. Lam and K. H. Lo (King's)	15	8	7
J. L. Anderson and H. S. Jones (K.C.C.)	15	8	7
A. E. Brown and S. A. Gray (St. Andrew's)	9	3	6
P. A. Yvanovich and P. P. Botelho (Recreio)	6	1	5
M. M. Davies and B. Gillopie (St. Andrew's)	9	4	5
R. Maynard and G. S. Ladd (St. John's)	15	10	5
A. E. Xavier and A. E. Noronha (Recreio)	6	2	4
C. C. Pereira and E. A. R. Alves (Recreio)	6	2	4
J. Odell and M. Talan (J.R.C.)	6	2	4
C. F. Chiu and P. C. Leung (Chung Wah)	3	1	2
S. C. Liang and K. F. Chiu (Chung Wah)	3	0	3
S. P. Chan and W. C. Chung (King's)	3	0	3
C. F. Chiu and W. H. Choy (Chung Wah)	3	0	3
E. A. R. Alves and B. T. Gosano (Recreio)	3	0	3
E. Zimmern and D. Hazell (K.C.C.)	3	0	3
D. Hazell and A. E. P. Guest (K.C.C.)	6	3	3
D. Kwok and E. Kennard (St. John's)	6	3	3
H. T. Woo and K. L. Lui (King's)	6	3	3
A. E. P. Guest and E. Zimmern (K.C.C.)	6	3	3
J. L. Anderson and D. Hazell (K.C.C.)	3	1	2
H. S. Jones and A. E. P. Guest (K.C.C.)	3	1	2
F. H. Kwok and R. E. Lee (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
F. H. Kwok and J. Chan (Kowloon Tong)	6	3	3
R. E. Lee and K. M. Lee (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
S. C. Chan and Lee Po (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
F. S. Li and S. C. Liang (Chung Wah)	3	1	2
R. E. Lee and P. C. Fletcher (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
K. L. Lui and J. Pan (King's)	3	1	2
K. H. Lo and W. C. Chung (King's)	3	1	2
N. Whitley and N. L. Smith (St. John's)	3	1	2
W. H. Choy and S. F. Lee (Chung Wah)	6	3	3
S. T. Chan and S. C. Chan (Kowloon Tong)	6	4	2
A. Basto and M. M. de V. Soares (V.R.C.)	12	10	2

Tsang, Anderson And F.H. Kwok Play Very Well

By "Adrem"

CHINESE Y.M.C.A. suffered another crushing defeat on Monday, in "A" Division of the Badminton League, going down to University "B" by 3-6. This was the second time this season that "Y" had failed against the junior undergraduate team.

Chinese "Y" were at home and had out their strongest team but they were never in the picture, each pair being only able to win a game apiece.

University proved very well-balanced and this was the main factor in their success. "Y" have won only one match to date, a 6-3 victory over Recreo, and they now appear to be strong contenders for the wooden spoon. It will be recalled that last year, with practically the same team, they lost a play-off for the championship with University "A".

K.C.C. Save Their Bacon!

In one of the most exciting and gruelling matches seen in either section of the League this season, Kowloon Cricket Club, fighting to the last ditch, snatched two points from lowly-placed Kowloon Tong on the last game of the evening which provided A. E. P. Guest and E. Zimmern, who were far from impressive in their first two games, with their only success of the evening.

Many of the games were long drawn-out affairs and in at least four of them, an opposite result would not have been altogether against the run of play.

One of the finest, from a technical point of view, was the eighth game of the evening, in which P. Wynter-Blyth and A. L. Fisher dropped their second game of the season. Their conquerors were Joseph Tsang and Peter Lo, whose form in their first two games had

suggested nothing that might indicate such a big upset. Tsang, however, gave a marvellous display and his smashing and quick coverage of court, combined with Lo's steadiness and ability to maintain a rally until Tsang had an opportunity of killing, gave the Kowloon Tong pair a brilliant win. There was never very much difference in the scores, the K.C.C. pair securing most of their points through concentrating on Lo and waiting for his loose returns to tuck away.

Fisher was very steady and placed very well, but Wynter-Blyth was rather erratic and later lost his smash.

K. Tong Setback

Kowloon Tong suffered a setback in the first game of the evening when Tsang and Lo went down to Anderson and Jones after a ding-dong struggle. Mackay and Lee were then annihilated by Fisher and Wynter-Blyth, but Kwok and Chan redeemed the situation somewhat when they scored a good win over Guest and Zimmern, Kwok playing a fine game and almost raising the standard of his partner to his own level.

In the second round Mackay and Lee, after securing a lead of 11-4, only just scraped home against Jones and Anderson after service had changed hands three

times without addition when the scores were set at 4-all; Kwok and Chan gave another fine display and forced Wynter-Blyth and Fisher all the way. At one stage near the end it appeared possible that Kwok's tenacity and fine placements would carry them through but the K.C.C. pair, who for some reason hitherto had not bothered to smash, rallied well and went out at 21-18.

Guest's Unavailing Effort

Evidently stiff and cold after waiting through four games, Lo and Tsang were very unimpressive against Guest and Zimmern but the last-named was playing so badly that despite the efforts of Guest, Kowloon Tong won the game to make the game score 3-all.

The last round was one of surprises. After their fine performance against Wynter-Blyth and Fisher, it was expected that Kwok and Chan would have a very good chance against Anderson and Jones, but Anderson was taking no chances and he completely dominated the court, smashing with fury and withal playing his drops with great delicacy. Kowloon Tong could produce no counter to the concentrated attack and K.C.C. were once again in the lead at 4-3.

Then came that epic game between Lo and Tsang, and Fisher and Wynter-Blyth which placed Kowloon Tong on level terms once again.

Rise To Occasion

Having regard to their poor performances, it was not expected that Guest and Zimmern would beat Lee and Mackay, especially as the latter pair, against Anderson and Jones, had shown such improvement. The K.C.C. players rose to the occasion in great style, however, and running away with a long lead, won easily to give K.C.C. a win, which at that stage, must be regarded as unexpected.

K.C.C. have not the balance of a championship team but they are great fighters. With all their players on form they are capable of beating the strongest combinations.

and if they do not win the title it will certainly not be for want of trying.

Other Matches

Other matches went as expected although Police, up against a disorganised St. John's team, did well to secure three games.

Although undergoing a long string of defeats, Police might do well to remember K.C.C., now at the top of the table with an unbeaten record, who went through much the same experience last year as Police are undergoing now.

Jackie Odell and M. Talan played very well against King's and can be well satisfied with winning two games, but the remainder of the Jewish R.C. team were outclassed and apart from a great fight by Godkin and Ramler against Chung and Lo, offered little resistance.

In a match on Tuesday, Chung Wah had little difficulty against V.R.C. and won for the loss of only one game.



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MIDDLESEX HOCKEY CHALLENGE TO ARMY

By "Squaddy"

AT SHAMSHUIPO ON Tuesday, Middlesex Regiment added another fine win to their unbeaten record in the Large Units Hockey League by defeating 5th A.A. Regt., R.A., to the tune of nine goals to nil, after being four goals in the lead at the interval.

The goals were scored by L/Cpl Bright (5), Pte. Sheehan (2), Bds. Hymas, and L/Cpl Moggeridge.

Although heavily beaten, the Gunners were in no way disgraced. The Middlesex, whose combination at times was absolutely outstanding, played brilliant hockey and it would have taken a very good team to have stood up to their onslaught.

L/Cpl Bright, of soccer fame, had a wonderful on day, and whenever in position in front of goal, there was no stopping him; he well deserved the five goals which he scored.

Bds. Hymas also played a remarkable game, being the best player on the field; his fine ball control kept the Gunners' defenders well on the run.

Pte. Stickley, who only a few days ago returned to the Middlesex side, played a hard game in defence and his hard and accurate hitting helped his forwards on many occasions.

Sgt. Crowley, who in past seasons has played for the Army, is still as good as ever and gave an excellent display at centre-half.

Pte. Sheehan proved a fine inside-left and worked well with Bright in the middle. He has a keen eye for the ball and is very safe with his stick.

On Sunday, at Shamshupo, the Middlesex will play the 2/14th Punjab Regt. in this League, bullet-off 10.30 a.m.

It is not an overstatement to say of the Middlesex that they have one of, if not the strongest, European sides in the Colony, and, to prove their worth, I understand that they have challenged the Army (British Ranks) to a match in the near future, which should be an interesting game to watch.

At least three or four of their players should be in the Army side or given a trial.

"H.Q." Company of the Middlesex have a very strong team in the Small Units League and have reached the semi-final of this competition, where they will meet 22nd Coy., R.E.

In this competition they have not had a goal scored against them... and all their matches have been played away from home!

BOXING

WEDNESDAY evening at Shamshupo a very entertaining performance was given by the Middlesex Regiment and the Combined Royal Artillery in the semi-finals of the Command Novices Team boxing competition, the former winning 24 points to 16.

The Gunners were unfortunate in that four of their team failed to turn up, but they would have had to win all four of these fights to enter the final!

Best fight of the evening was between Pte. Macey of the Middlesex and Gnr. Agar. Both men fought hard throughout the three rounds and were congratulated at the end of the fight by the referee on their gallant performance.

The last fight of the evening was also a good one, Pte. Byford of Middlesex giving a fine exhibition of boxing. On this performance he should make a fine third welterweight string for the Middlesex opens.

Pte. Hogan, Middlesex, beat Gnr. Baker on a T.K.O. in the

closing stages of the last round when the referee stopped the fight to save Baker from getting more punishment.

Hogan, in the first two rounds, did not look like winning and it was not until the last round that he made a fine recovery to win.

Results at a glance were:

Bantamweight—Pte. Anderson (Middlesex) Walkover.

Featherweight—Gnr. Agar (R.A.) beat Pte. Hymas (Middlesex), Gnr. Bayley (R.A.) beat Pte. Macey (Middlesex).

Lightweight—Pte. Gratton (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Owens (R.A.), Gnr. Whittle (R.A.) beat L/Cpl Hill (Middlesex), Pte. Lanagan (Middlesex) Walkover.

Middleweight—Gnr. Maher (R.A.) Walkover, Gnr. Millard (R.A.) beat L/Cpl Marmelback (Middlesex), Pte. Hogan (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Baker (R.A.) T.K.O.

Welterweight—Pte. Coleman (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Chandler (R.A.), Pte. Nash (Middlesex) Walkover, Pte. Toomey (Middlesex) Walkover.

Light Heavyweight—Pte. Cooper (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Pridmore (R.A.).

Heavyweight—L/Cpl Smith (Middlesex) beat L/Bdr. Dooley (R.A.).

Welterweight—Pte. Byford (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Campbell (R.A.).

SNOOKER

IN the Garrison Snooker League, Royal Army Medical Corps are leading by four points from the Royal Engineers Sergeants.

At a meeting of the Garrison Snooker Committee held in the Soldiers' Club at the beginning of the week, a proposal was made by S/Sgt. Megson, R.E., that one League point should be allotted to each "frame" won only, the total aggregate to have no bearing on the final result whatsoever, i.e., if both teams playing won three games each, they would be awarded three points each in the League table.

This proposal was agreed upon by all present, and will be incorporated in the relevant rules.

Results and League positions to date:

R.A.P.C. beat Signals "A"	4-2
R.A.M.C. beat Signals Cpls.	6-0
C.M. Police drew R.E. "A"	3-3
R.A.M.C. drew C.M. Police	3-3
R.A. Stanley drew R.E. Sergeants	3-3

R.E. "A" drew R.E. Sergeants, 3-3
R.A. Stanley beat Signals "A", 4-2
R.A.P.C. lost to Signals Cpls., 1-6

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
R.A.M.C.	3	2	0	1	15
R.E. Sergeants	3	1	0	2	11
R.A. Stanley	3	1	0	2	10
C.M. Police	3	0	0	0	9
R.E. "A"	3	0	0	3	9
Signals Cpls.	3	1	1	1	8
R.A.P.C.	3	1	2	0	6
Signals "A"	3	0	3	0	4

On Sunday R.A.M.C. played Kowloon Police in a return snooker match and avenged their previous defeat by a comfortable margin. The match was played at the R.A.M.C. Mess.

R.A.M.C. 667 points
Kowloon Police 522 points

RUGBY FOOTBALL

AT Sookunpoo on Tuesday, Royal Scots were surprised by Combined Royal Artillery in the Large Units Rugby League, and were beaten by 12 points to 8.

Royal Engineers had another win over the Combined Small Units.

The Large Units League Table to date is:

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Royal Engineers	2	2	0	0	4
Royal Artillery	3	2	1	0	4
Royal Scots	2	1	1	0	2
Middlesex	2	1	1	0	2
C.S. Units	3	0	3	0	0

In a friendly match with the Hong Kong Club at Happy Valley

on Wednesday, Middlesex Regiment drew, each side scoring one try.

Sgt. Burrell scored the Middlesex try.

ASSOCIATION

FOOTBALL

ROYAL Army Service Corps are still winning in Second Division of the League, and at Sookunpoo on Wednesday they defeated the strong Engineers' eleven by three goals to one.

This places them in a very good position, with the Sappers now only one point in the lead, but one game in hand.

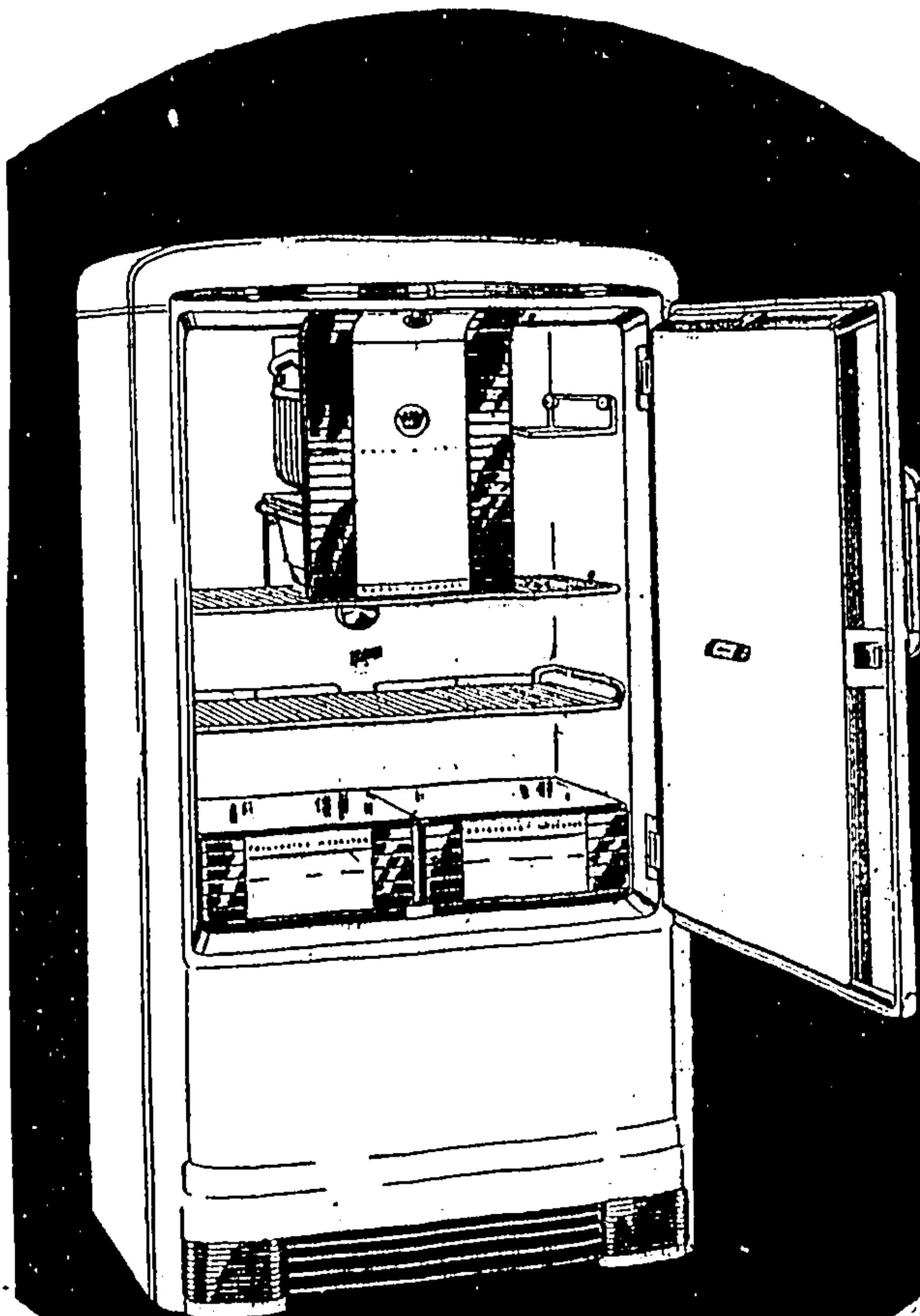
This is the first defeat that the Engineers have suffered this season in League football, and the second in all football this year.

They were knocked out of the Junior Shield by 36th R.A. in the last round.

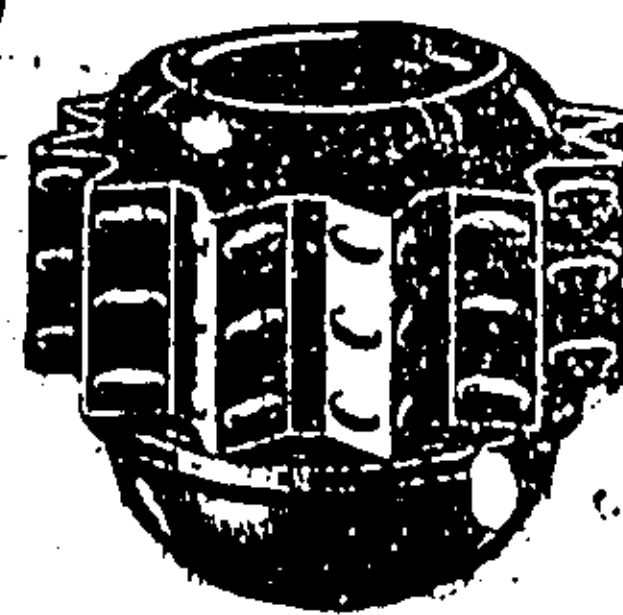
Service Corps now only need another six goals to equal the goal-scoring record of 96 goals. Their goal average is now 90 goals for and 29 against, and they still have another six games to play. On current form they should easily secure the necessary seven goals.

CROSS COUNTRY

ON Monday, February 24, Middlesex Regt. will compete against Combined Small Units in a cross country run, which will start and finish at the European Y.M.C.A. Kowloon. The course will be between five and six miles, and this run is to enable both units to select their final team for the annual cross country run which takes place on March 4.



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PETAIN-FRANCO-IL DUCE

Little Indication Of Real Purpose Of Talks Spanish Move To Join Axis Not Expected

YUGOSLAV PREMIER OFF TO BERLIN

It was reported in London last night that the Yugoslav Premier and Foreign Minister left Belgrade yesterday for Berlin at the invitation of the German Government, says a Reuter despatch.

DUBLIN GETTING PREPARED

The importance of perfecting evacuation plans "while time is still available," was stressed by Mr. William Norton, Leader of the Labour Party in the Dail, broadcasting from Dublin last night.

Mr. de Valera recently announced that if the voluntary evacuation scheme proved unsatisfactory the Government would resort to

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE MEETING BETWEEN GENERAL FRANCO AND MARSHAL PETAIN WAS REPORTED TO BE CONCERNED WITH EUROPEAN PROBLEMS AND IT IS INDICATED THAT FRANCO GAVE MARSHAL PETAIN A RESUME OF HIS TALKS WITH MUSSOLINI.

Rome radio says that the talks concerned the "new order" in Europe.

The Mussolini/Franco talk took place at Bordighera and the discussion covered a wide-range of topics relating to European and African developments.

Officials in London, according to the B.B.C., consider it extremely unlikely that General Franco is about to join the Axis. — International News Service.

The Petain-Franco Meeting

Marshal Petain received General Franco and

compulsion. Mr. Norton said: "We know the plight of millions of refugees in other countries who had no time to prepare for evacuation, and we have that lesson before us." — Reuter.

Senor Serrano Suner, the Spanish Foreign Minister, immediately after the Spanish leaders had arrived at Montpellier at 1.55 yesterday afternoon.

After lunching together Marshal Petain and General Franco had a conversation lasting three hours.

General Franco was accompanied, in addition to Senor Suner, by a suite composed both of civilian and military officials.

While General Franco and Marshal Petain were together a large crowd gathered outside the building and cheered loudly.

Both Smiling

Responding to demands the two leaders appeared on the balcony and were greeted with shouts of "Vive Franco" and "Vive Petain". Both were smiling.

Before General Franco entered his car the band played both the Spanish anthem and the Marseillaise.

During the afternoon Senor Suner had a conversation with Admiral Darlan, the French Foreign Minister and Vice-Premier.

Italian Statement

The Mediterranean and Africa were the main questions discussed at the meeting at Bordighera between General Franco and Mussolini, according to the official Italian news agency yesterday quoting "authorised quarters in Rome."

Repeating the words of the official communiqué the agency adds: "There was certainly a question of problems arising from the conflict with which are connected the reorganisation of Europe and of questions concerning the Mediterranean and Africa."

"On these two points perfect identity of views was noted."

"Spain's attitude of solidarity with the Axis is being continued."

"Political Comrades"

The same "authorised quarters" are stated to have commented on the meeting thus: "This meeting between two statesmen linked by close political comradeship is inclined to have that importance which is characterised by the military and political circumstances of the moment."

"It is significant that General Franco met the Duce for the first time in Italy, thus giving the lie to certain allegations of enemy propaganda."

"The Bordighera meeting was above all devoted to an examination of questions which interest the two countries." — Reuter.

CANADIAN DEFENCE PROJECT

A system of aerodromes through Alberta and British Columbia leading to Alaska is being established by the Canadian Government as a defence measure at a cost of about £2,000,000. It was announced in Ottawa yesterday by Mr. C. G. Power, Minister of Defence and Air Minister. — Reuter.

STOP PRESS

"There has been no new developments and the situation, as far as the advice given to American subjects, women, children and non-essential persons to return to the United States, is about the same to-day as it was in October last, when the first advice was issued in Hong Kong on instructions from Washington, declared Mr. Addison Southard, American Consul-General in Hong Kong, to the "China Mail" this morning.

Mr. Southard expressed astonishment at the sensational interpretation of the advice reiterated by the American Consul-General in Shanghai.

Mr. Southard pointed out that following the first advice given in October last, the local Consulate has reiterated this same advice to local American residents monthly, either by circular or verbally. He has received no fresh instruction to issue a more vigorous circular in connection with this advice.

The prefix "special" to telegrams is used by the "Sunday Herald" and "China Mail" to indicate news which is strictly copyright under the provisions of the Telecommunications Ordinance, 1936, and may not be reprinted under any circumstances, either wholly or in part, without prior arrangement.

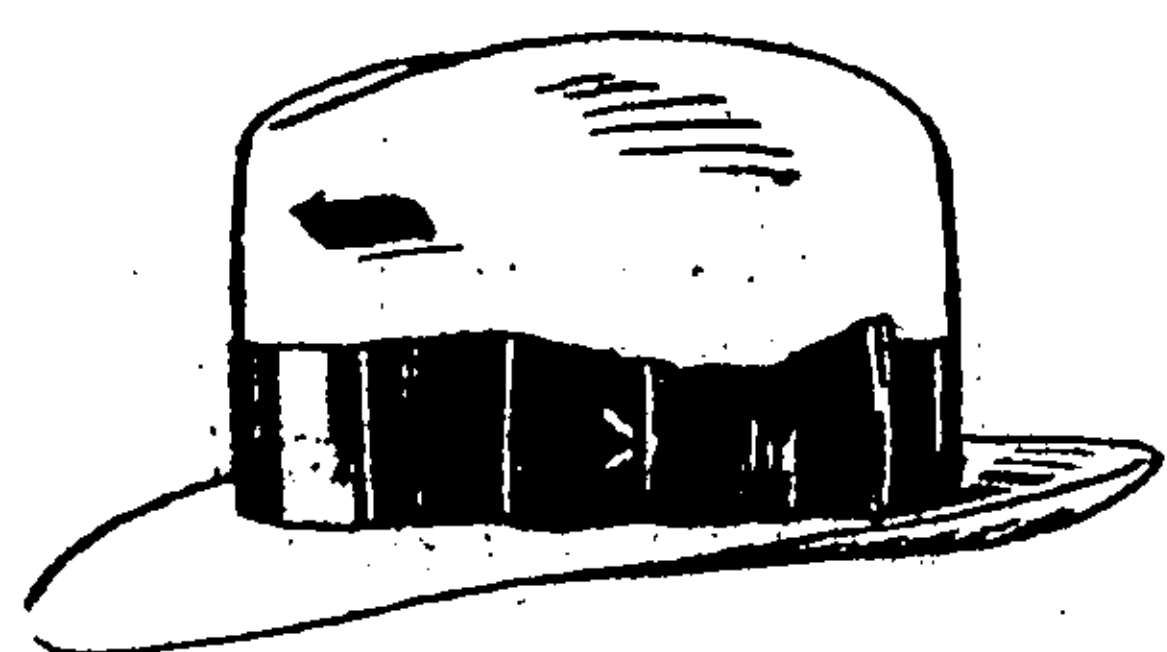


POWELL'S

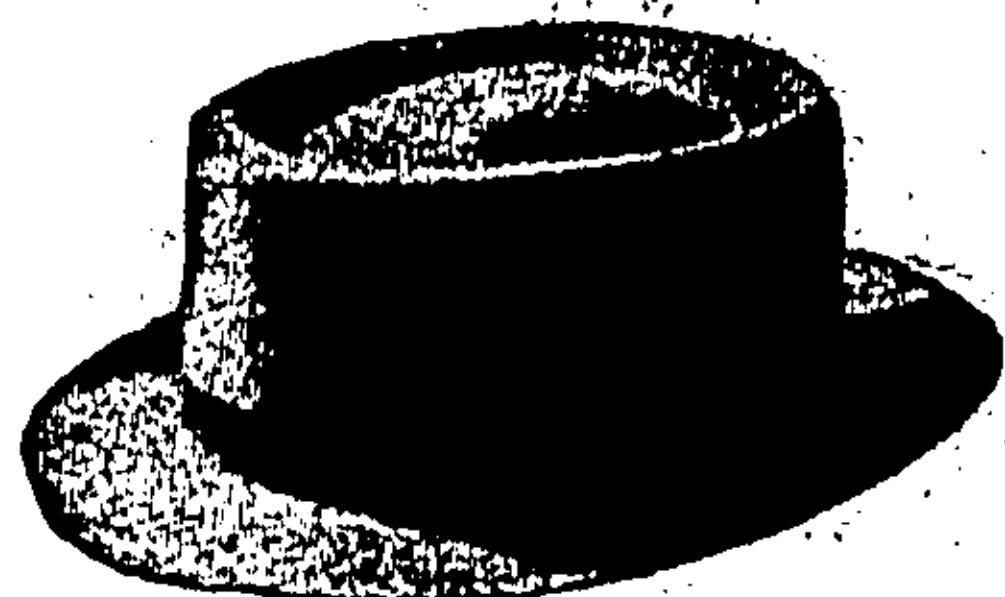


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ADVICE
TO LEAVE

Americans had been advised to leave the Far East, according to Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State.

Speaking in Washington yesterday Mr. Hull said United States consular officers warned United States citizens in Far Eastern countries to evacuate as a precautionary measure in view of the disturbed conditions.

THE STATEMENT FOLLOWED THE PUBLICATION OF DESPATCHES FROM TOKYO AND SHANGHAI SAYING THAT ALL WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND MEN ABLE TO DO SO HAD BEEN URGENTLY ADVISED TO LEAVE.—REUTER.

Mr. Southard Surprised

There has been no new developments and the situation, as far as the advice given to American subjects, women, children and non-essential persons, to return to the United States, is about the same to-day as it was in October last, when the first advice was issued in Hong Kong on instructions from Washington, declared Mr. Addison Southard, American Consul-General in Hong Kong, to the "China Mail" this morning.

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Civilian
Peril In
Ethiopia

The evacuation of civilians from Abyssinia is considered as a likely subject to have been discussed between Mussolini and General Franco, according to the Vichy correspondent of the "Gazette de Lausanne" yesterday.

This question, involving as it does the utilisation of the Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway, which has its terminus in French Som-

But Moment Of
Crisis Held Not
To Be Immediate

(By Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent)

A SERIOUS VIEW is taken in London of the position in the Pacific, especially after the Australian Ministers' warning of the situation in the Far East.

Australian reaction to the warning of serious developments has given much satisfaction in London, while the American attitude is also all to the good.

In Allied circles in London which are usually well-informed it is felt that the moment of crisis is not immediate.

It is pointed out that in view of the fact that negotiations between Indo-China and Thailand are proceeding and the armistice has just been prolonged another fortnight, it is unlikely Japan would take any immediate action.

Also, although there has been talk of negotiations with Russia, Japan has not yet reached any agreement that would guarantee her rear if she were to undertake any adventurous operation to the south.—Reuter.

Danger Admitted In
London

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") That there is a danger that Japan may intervene on the side of Germany and Italy was admitted yesterday by authoritative quarters in London.

Informed circles in London say that the Japanese Foreign

WILLKIE
KNOX "CLASH"
UNIMPORTANT

There is no controversy between President Roosevelt and Colonel Frank Knox, Secretary of Navy, or Mr. Wendell Willkie on the question of turning over more destroyers to Britain, declares an announcement issued from the White House last night.—Reuter.

CHINESE
WANT H.K.
CONSULATE

Reports that Britain has agreed to the establishment of a Chinese consulate in Hong Kong are premature, Reuter learns from authoritative sources in Chungking.

The influential daily, "Ta Kung Pao," published a report that Britain has agreed to the establishment of a consulate in the Crown Colony.

IT IS LEARNED, HOWEVER, THAT WHILE THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES HAVE APPLIED TO THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES FOR PERMISSION THE MATTER IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION AND NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN REACHED.

It is believed in Chungking that there is a good possibility of Britain agreeing to the suggestion.—Reuter.

alland, also, concerns France. This is regarded by the correspondent as sufficient to explain the meeting between Marshal Petain and General Franco. Political observers in Zurich incline to the view that Mussolini probably sounded General Franco as to what help he would be able to afford Italy.—Reuter.

Stout
Italian
Defence

The Italians are putting up stout resistance round Keren, strategical town 60 miles north-west of Asmara, in Eritrea.

The fighting is very tough and over difficult ground.

The British advance is progressing towards Arreza, which lies 30 miles south-west of Asmara.

Here the country is also difficult and the retreating Italians have been obliged to jettison much of their equipment.

The advance east of Lake Rudolf, in Abyssinia, is also progressing satisfactorily.

Patrol actions only are reported from other fronts.—Reuter.

FALL OF
TEPELINI
IMMINENT

The fall of Tepelini—strategic Albanian town 30 miles south-east of Valona—is expected at any moment following a further strengthening of the Greek encircling movement, cables Reuter's special correspondent on the Albanian frontier.

There is heavy Greek artillery fire on this sector.

Fighting in the Skumbi and Devoli River valleys has been more violent but Italian resistance to Greek pressure is very strong.

Near Podgradetz, on the eastern front, the Greeks have advanced over a mile with artillery support.—Reuter.

GUNS DRAWN
IN CHAMBER

REVOLVERS WERE BRANDISHED IN AN EXTENDED SESSION OF THE ARGENTINE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IN BUENOS AIRES YESTERDAY.

A Conservative deputy named Rocha and a Radical, da Monte, interrupted the debate by a lively exchange of blows. They had drawn their guns before they could be separated.—Reuter.

Sir Robert Craige
Sees Matsuoka

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") It is reported that Sir Robert Craige, British Ambassador in Tokyo, has warned Mr. Matsuoka

(Continued on Page 16)

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Secret Behind Wavell Triumphs In Libya War

ATTACKS ON RHODES CONTINUE

The R.A.F. offensive against the island of Rhodes continued on Tuesday night, when Maritza and Calato were raided with success.

Fires were started at Maritza and petrol dumps at Calato were destroyed. At least seven enemy aircraft grounded on the Calato aerodrome were destroyed.

The R.A.F. was also active in the Keren area of Eritrea, where military objectives suffered several direct hits.

The South African Air Force was also in action. Transports were attacked and set on fire.

All our aircraft returned safely from these operations. — Reuter.

ALFONSO RENOUNCES RIGHTS

A document signed by ex-King Alfonso, in which he offers to renounce all his rights in favour of his son, the Infante Juan, was published yesterday in Spanish text by the Lisbon newspaper "Voz".

The document is dated from Rome, January 14, 1941. — Reuter.

More Soviet Radio.—According to the Soviet Radio the Moscow-Leningrad broadcasting system will be considerably extended and a number of new stations created.

Brilliant Work By Picked Men For Desert Sabotage

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent with the British and Imperial Forces in Libya)

THE REMARKABLE STORY CAN NOW BE TOLD OF HOW, FOLLOWING ITALY'S ENTRY INTO THE WAR, A SMALL FORCE OF PICKED NEW ZEALAND AND BRITISH TROOPS COVERED THOUSANDS OF MILES THROUGH THE DESERTS OF SOUTHERN LIBYA PROBING THE SECRETS OF ITALY'S DEFENCES AND SABOTAGING HER PREPARATIONS.

BRITISH MISSION RETURNING

Great cordiality and evident friendship marked the stay in Caracas, Venezuela, of the British economic mission to South America, which leaves for England to-morrow. — Reuter.

Known as the "Long Range Desert Group" the force was comprised of picked officers and men from New Zealand and the British Royal Armoured Corps.

It was commanded by a lieutenant-colonel famed as an explorer in the Libyan desert who was formerly a British official in the Egyptian Survey Department and a member of the Palestine Department of Antiquities.

The force journeyed thousands of miles through the southern Libyan deserts, carrying its own supplies, pirating enemy transport, shelling and capturing isolated forts, blowing up dumps and burning grounded aircraft.

Operations were conducted over a radius of over 700 miles south of the Oases of Siwa and Jerrabub and most valuable information was obtained.

After Italy's declaration of war the presence at Kufra of enemy troops and aircraft in unknown numbers was very disturbing to the authorities.

Distinct Threat

They were also known to possess a number of motorised units constructed for desert work and capable of carrying out well executed desert operations. There therefore existed a distinct threat to Upper Egypt by land and air.

It was imperative to find out the secrets lying behind the great sand barrier protecting Kufra and so the vanguard of the Long Range Desert Group set out, defying the sea of sand and the sweltering heat of the August sun.

The vanguard, consisting of a British officer and five New Zealanders in two light cars, crossed the sandy waste—some 800 miles long and an average of 150 miles wide—and struck westwards 200 miles behind the Kufra-Benghazi frontier.

Pave The Way

After days in the desert studying wheelmarks and extracting a wealth of information by other means, the vanguard returned having paved the way for further expeditions.

The same barrier was then crossed for the first time by the Long Range Desert Group, and three columns of loaded trucks crawled 200 miles through the sand-waves.

The New Zealanders, unaccustomed to the desert, soon adapted themselves to conditions.

One truck fell over the brink of a sand dune and rolled 100 feet without being damaged. Hot winds blew a blanket of sand over the convoy.

Bags Of Documents

Patrols separated, each setting off on a 1,000-mile reconnaissance in different parts of enemy territory.

Nothing was heard from them by General Headquarters for a month. Then three bands of bearded, unwashed but exultant "ruffians" appeared in Cairo with a batch of Italian prisoners and bags of captured documents.

One patrol examined all roads leading to Kufra, penetrated 350 miles into Libya and held up columns of enemy lorries in the best highwayman style.

Official Mail

The haul included official mail for Kufra, containing enough information to reveal all the enemy's dispositions in the inner desert area.

A second party crossed the desert south-west of Kufra and travelled along the ancient caravan routes, making contact with Free French outposts in Chad Territory.

A third patrol visited the lonely mountain of Use Inanji Uwainat, and found and destroyed an enemy bomber and a large dump of petrol and bombs.—Reuter.

BORROWED TRAM IN RAID

A passenger who attempted to drive a tramcar during an air raid on a West Midlands town after the rest of the passengers had gone to shelter, was fined 40s. and 25s. costs for interfering with the controls of the car.

Prosecuting counsel said the authorities took a serious view of the case.

The car, he said, was stopped near a depot and a second car had pulled up ten or twelve yards behind it.

The passenger left the second car and, boarding the first, tried to drive it.

The controls were in reverse, and he crashed into the car behind.

His excuse was that he wanted to get home.

Acton's Affairs.—A receiving order has been made on the petition of a money-lender against Mr. Stanley James Warrington, the radio actor, who for some years appeared as "Inspector Hornleigh Investigates."

Lord Roche's Appointment.—Lord Roche, formerly a Lord of Appeal, is to be chairman of the Agricultural Wages Board, in succession to Viscount Ullswater, who has resigned on account of age.

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CHINA AND PACIFIC CRISIS

May Be Able To Lend Effective Aid To Britain

Issue Under Discussion In Chungking

CHINA'S PART IN possible further developments in the Pacific is being so eagerly discussed in Chungking as to push the China War into the background.

It is realised that the future of the world now depends on whether Britain can hold out in Europe against the German onslaught and whether the combined British and United States forces in the Far East can defeat any eventual Japanese drive in the southern Pacific.

The report that fresh evacuation advice has been given to United States citizens in the Far East has attracted much attention in Chungking.

Prominence has also been given to the statement made by President Roosevelt on Tuesday to the effect that if the United States were forced into war in the Pacific it would not mean curtailment of war supplies to Britain and added that he thought there was no danger of the United States getting into war.

London cables mentioning the possibility of a Japanese move in the Pacific to support a German attack in Europe are also being discussed in Chungking.

Nazi Activity

These developments tend to confirm information reaching Chinese headquarters in Chungking that Germany has been very active in the last three weeks urging Japan to move in the Pacific against Britain and the United States, also that Japan has agreed to support Germany.

Many Chinese quarters consider China will not remain idle if Japan attacks in the southern Pacific, since China can effectively aid Britain in the defence of Burma and Singapore, either by sending troops into Burma and Malaya or by launching a counter-offensive in China.

Indication that the British Ambassador, Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, is unlikely to leave Chungking in the immediate future is seen in Lady Kerr's arrival in the Chinese capital from Hong Kong yesterday morning by plane.

THE AMBASSADOR WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO LEAVE THIS WEEK BY AIR FOR HONG KONG TO JOIN LADY KERR.—REUTER.

COST OF COVERING THE WAR

A COMPLAINT MADE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EMPIRE PRESS UNION THAT "MESSAGES FROM EGYPT ABOUT THE GLORIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ARMY OF THE NILE HAVE BEEN COSTING ABOUT THREE TIMES AS MUCH AS THEY WOULD BETWEEN TWO PARTS OF THE EMPIRE," WAS UNDERLINED IN AN EDITORIAL IN THE "YORKSHIRE POST" YESTERDAY.

The newspaper says: "It would be an advantage to the Empire press and Empire readers if Government could persuade Egypt to adopt the Empire flat rate of 2½d a word for press messages sent outside that country."

Reference was also made at the meeting to the handicaps of the press censorship which delayed vital news and gave an advantage to broadcasting.—REUTER.

SLACK DAY ON STOCK EXCHANGE

The London Stock Exchange yesterday was dull with very small business pending Balkan developments but there was no selling. Gilt-edged were inclined to be heavy, while Indian bonds met with profit-taking. Industrial eased on some provincial selling. Oils also tended lower while Kafirs were barely steady. Japanese bonds receded 30/- Wall Street was quiet.—REUTER.

HIRE MEN ON INSTALMENT SUGGESTS M.P.

THE GOVERNMENT is to be asked to subsidise wages after the war so that employers may hire workers on a kind of instalment system spread over three years.

Mr. W. Craven-Ellis, Conservative M.P. for Southampton, is the author of this three-year plan. He proposes that it should apply to workers who have exhausted their unemployment benefit, including men demobilised from the Forces.

If the level of unemployment in an industry exceeds three per cent. over a period of three months, he says, the Government should continue to pay the unemployment allowance and the employer should make up the worker's wage to the standard rate.

And here's where the "instalment idea comes in:—

"At the end of two years the Government's contribution shall be reduced by one-twelfth for each month during the third year, until at the end of the three-year plan industry will be responsible for the full standard wage."

Mr. Craven-Ellis considers this will avoid abnormal unemployment after the war in all, or selected, industries.

His motion, to go before the House of Commons, declares that "a fuller employment of the people will result in the creation of greater wealth and purchasing power. General industry will benefit and therefore a condition of the three-year plan should be that it will end immediately if unemployment falls below 3 per cent. for six months."

Mrs. Vijalakshmi Pandit, a sister of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Congress leader, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment under Defence of India Regulations.

AID BRITAIN BILL LITTLE CHANGED

THE MEASURE PASSED BY THE SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REGARDING THE LEASE AND LEND BILL IS SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME AS THAT PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A proposal to restrict presidential authority under the Bill to send armed forces out of the Western Hemisphere was rejected by the Committee.

The Senate debate will begin on Monday, and it is hoped to restrict it to a fortnight.—REUTER.

GIFT FOR JERVIS BAY DEPENDANTS

The Basra British War Relief Fund has sent £5,000 to the Admiralty for distribution among the dependents of seamen who lost their lives in the sinking of the Jervis Bay which saved a convoy by heroically drawing the full fire of a heavily armed German raider.—British Wireless.

CHINESE ATTACK NEAR SHASI

Chinese troops who pushed their way to the suburbs of Shasi, 110 miles above Hankow, have been attacking the Japanese at Shapaozue, only three miles from Shasi, with considerable success. Fighting is still in progress in that area.—Central News.

YOUTHS OF NINETEEN TO REGISTER

Youths of 19 and just over, born between January 1 and December 31, 1921, are to register for military service on Saturday, February 22.

This will be the first registration under the Proclamation of January 29, extending the age limit to men who had then reached the age of 18 but had not reached 41.—REUTER.

CUBA BANS AXIS PROPAGANDA

Regulations prohibiting the dissemination of totalitarian propaganda of any kind by the press, radio, films or through the post, were approved by the Cuban Cabinet in Havana yesterday, says REUTER.

U.S. Gives 6,000 Stoves.—The American Red Cross has given 3,000 heating and 3,000 cooking stoves for use in emergency hospitals, rest centres, first aid posts, and army medical units.

OSUMI INCIDENT DENIAL

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE CLAIM MADE BY THE CHUNGKING AUTHORITIES THAT THE JAPANESE AIR LINER CARRYING THE LATE ADMIRAL BARON OSUMI AND FIVE OTHER JAPANESE NAVAL OFFICERS WAS SHOT DOWN BY CHINESE GUERRILLAS, WAS RIDICULED BY THE SPOKESMAN OF THE JAPANESE SOUTH CHINA SEAS FLEET IN CANTON YESTERDAY.

The spokesman pointed out that Chungking made the announcement of the alleged successful attack on February 8 several hours after the Japanese Navy Ministry announced, at noon on that day, that the plane had crashed on February 7.

The spokesman contended that the commander of the guerrillas who was credited with shooting down the air liner was in Macao with his staff.—REUTER Special.

TURKISH DEAL WITH RUMANIANS

Turkey is to receive 160,000 tons of petroleum from Rumania under an agreement just concluded between the two countries, according to an Istanbul despatch to the German news agency yesterday.—REUTER.

Congratulations to Eton.—Pennsylvania University, celebrating its 200th anniversary, has sent congratulations to Eton College, which reached its 500th birthday last week.

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BREAD SHORTAGE IN FRANCE

Reports reaching New York from neutral sources in Vichy say that France, faced by a winter which like all war winters will presumably be hard, is engaged in outlining the principles of her new economy and taking an inventory of her diminished agricultural supplies.

Two rather pessimistic notes were sounded by the Minister of Agriculture, M. Caziot, and the German expert, Fritz Reinhardt, who is head of the agricultural section of the German administration in Paris.

"France is threatened with a lack of bread, which is serious to big bread-eaters like the French," said M. Caziot, who revealed that the "free" zone must import about 8,000,000cwt. of wheat from the occupied region, where crops have been slightly better.

Reinhardt said that France had lost over 40 per cent. of her potato crop. For oats, the situation was worse, as France imported 50 per cent. of her needs.

BRITISH CONTROL OF MEDITERRANEAN

THE BOMBARDMENT of Genoa shows that the British Fleet continues to dominate the Mediterranean and the Italian African armies are virtually separated from Italy, writes the military correspondent of the Swiss newspaper "La Suisse."

The "National Zeitung" of Berne says that the speed with which General Wavell's on-storming Empire troops reached and captured Benghazi has not only surprised laymen.

The performance of the British troops and High Command calls for the respect of all unprejudiced observers.

Whether the course of the African campaign is of importance for the final decision or whether the British advance continues, the widespread rumour that England is an old country and the home of an old people without power to live or resist is after all only a rumour.

The way the English have borne terrible bombing attacks without weakening or crying for the world's recognition has destroyed this rumour.

Not many of the so-called young peoples could have achieved this record of sang froid and nervous endurance. — Reuter.

Nazi Problem

The "Gazette de Lausanne" says Britain is armed, strong and ready.

The "Tribune de Lausanne" says: "Germany is now obliged to seek a decision in Britain. A surprise attack is hardly possible and could only be tried when the British fleet and air force have been enfeebled. This will be long and costly." — British Wireless.

ARMY TO GROW FOOD

A SCHEME HAS BEEN LAUNCHED UNDER WHICH SOLDIERS OF THE SCOTTISH COMMAND WILL GROW VEGETABLES ON ALL ARABLE LAND UNDER ITS CONTROL.

"The army will grow food on its land just as any other occupier" said the officer in charge of the scheme, "always with the provision that the Army must be allowed to train."

The Treasury has made a grant for tools and seeds and hundreds of gardeners or farmers now serving in the Army will be employed wholly on the new scheme as advisers and instructors.

Tractors will be hired to plough up larger areas although a great deal of the work will be on the allotment system. Main crop will be potatoes." — British Wireless.

3,985 INTERNEES FREED IN ENGLAND

Three thousand eight hundred and ninety-one internees have been released temporarily or permanently on medical grounds, and sixty-nine doctors and dentists, and twenty-five employers engaged in work certified by a Government department to be of value to the community, also have been freed.

German technicians have arrived at the aerodrome of Bron, near Lyons, in non-occupied France, for the construction of a meteorological station, states a Lyons report.

MAGIC STUDIO

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LADY (AUSTEN) CHAMBERLAIN PASSES

The death was announced in London yesterday of Lady Chamberlain, widow of Sir Austen Chamberlain, former Foreign Secretary and half-brother of the late Mr. Neville Chamberlain. Lady Chamberlain passed away after a short illness. — Reuter.

Germans Execute Frenchman. — Sentenced to death by a German court-martial for "committing an act of violence against a member of the German Armed Forces," a French wine merchant was shot in Bordeaux.

Hospital Matrons for Shelters. — The Ministry of Health has appointed two hospital matrons to help to supervise the nursing services in London shelters.

SOMEONE SHOULD HANG

"Hang a looter" was the advice given to the authorities by a newspaper recently as the best means of stamping out this beastly crime against air raid victims.

One of the worst cases of looting was being investigated by a London council. It occurred in a block of shopping and residential property.

When the evacuated people returned they found that their shops had been cleared out of everything that could be taken away.

A hairdresser lost his entire stock. Houses had even the tea and sugar rations, suits of clothes and other personal belongings stolen.

Live chickens from the back yards were also taken.

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United Artists Release

Bringing Up Father

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MEN'S WORK DEMANDED

Women should control the nation's food supplies and prices, and should be responsible for air raid shelters and evacuation.

Those demands are made by Mrs. Marion Coates Hansen, of Middlesbrough, who was a lieutenant of Sylvia and Greta, later Bankhurst in the sufferer's movement thirty years ago.

"It is true the W.V.S. are doing a lot of work and doing it splendidly, but women are being used only to carry out the often badly planned ideas of the men."

"Women have brains, yet they ask us to knit. If I had my way I would organise machines for knitting and use the hands and brains of women to better purpose."

Mrs. Hansen wants every housewife to have a wage of at least 10s. or 12s. a week which must not be used for housekeeping.

Mrs. Coates Hansen is an active partner in her husband's business. "I sell cranes, chains, piston rings, and they tell me I am something of an expert on waterproofing shelters," she said.

"To do my two jobs as a housewife and a business woman, I have to get up at six o'clock."

"Oh, yes," she added, "I get a wage as a housewife, and I jolly well earn it."

VICAR LEADS SCHOOL REVOLT

LED BY THEIR VICAR, the Rev. J. H. Ward, children of Holy Trinity church school, Wolverhampton, have declared war on the local education authorities, and are deliberately going to school thirty-five minutes late each morning.

As chairman of the school managers, Mr. Ward said "I told the education authorities that our school caretaker could not light the gas each morning until 8 o'clock because of the black-out."

As a war emergency I suggested that the children should go to school at 10 o'clock instead of 8."

But the authorities opposed this, and suggested the school should be completely blacked-out or that the fires should have asbestos beards over them.

"The children must have warm classrooms to sit in, and I told my congregation in church and the children themselves not to go to school until 9.35 a.m."

"The school register is opened at nine o'clock each morning and must remain open for thirty-five minutes, although the children going in then will get a late mark."

"But I am not going to see the children freeze and be ill."

"There are 315 pupils. This morning only 100 attended at 9 a.m. Fifty-two of these children are from cottage homes."

HE SAVED HIS LIFE RISKING IT

A sailor aboard a ship which hit an enemy mine owes his life to the fact that he risked death to retrieve from his cabin a letter from his wife and photographs of his children.

While he was collecting his treasures the lifeboat in which he should have taken his place capsized.

The letter, the only one he has received for a year - and the photographs are all that Alfred Ekines, aged fifty-eight, has to remind him of the home he once had in Norway.

"In the last war I was torpedoed twice, but it was different then, for I had a home," he told a reporter.

"Now I do not even know where my wife is. The Germans are in our country."

Ekines's ship was bringing a cargo of food to England when it struck the mine.

Navy To the Rescue

Though the engineroom was quickly under water and they had temporarily to take to the lifeboats, the thirty-one Norwegian sailors on board refused to abandon their ship.

They stayed by her all night and then, aided by British naval men, some of them boarded her again and brought the ship safely to port.

"I cannot face telling my family what has befallen me," said Ekines. "I dare not write, even if I knew where they were."

Ekines's greatest friend at the moment is the Rev. Arthur Bowen, one of the Missions to Seamen chaplains, who is busy supplying him with a new outfit before once again he goes to sea to bring in more food for Britain.

NOT GUILTY OF BEACH DEATH

Arthur George Collis, forty-one, a labourer, was found Not Guilty at Lewes (Sussex) Assizes of the manslaughter of James Savage, seventy-seven, at Brighton on August 2.

The prosecution said that Savage had accused Collis of watching girls undressing on the beach, and added: "If I were a younger man I would give you a good thrashing." Blows were struck, it was alleged.

Collis said that Savage fell in the act of hitting out.

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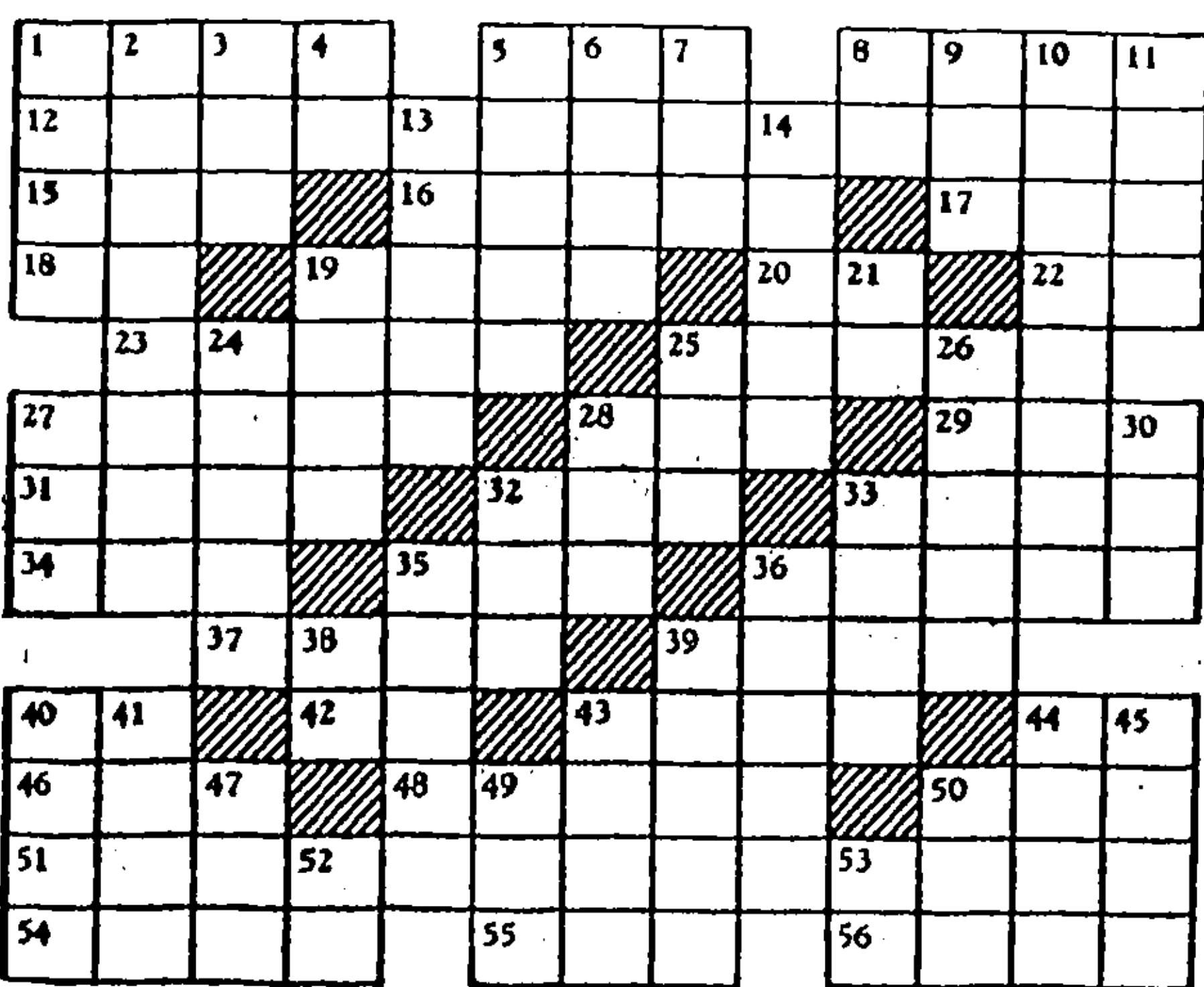
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OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



- HORIZONTAL**
- 1 Auction
 - 5 Social insect
 - 8 Law: delay
 - 12 Inexplicable
 - 15 Crude metal
 - 16 American frontiersman
 - 17 Man's name
 - 18 Toward
 - 19 Large deer
 - 20 Symbol for sodium chloride
 - 22 Printer's measure
 - 23 Spirit under the control of Solomon
 - 25 French soldier
 - 27 Employees
 - 28 Mongrel
 - 29 Philippine savage
 - 31 Enemies
 - 32 To make lace
 - 33 Dry
 - 34 Music, as written
 - 35 To weaken
 - 36 To alter
 - 37 College official
 - 39 Part of the eye
 - 40 Japanese money
 - 42 Preposition
 - 43 Stepped
 - 44 Symbol for oleum

- VERTICAL**
- 1 Stain
 - 2 Haughty
 - 3 Confederate general
 - 4 French for "and"
 - 5 Colloquial: moneyless
 - 6 Man's name
 - 7 To bring forth
 - 8 Greek letter
 - 9 Anglo-Saxon money
 - 10 Russian monk
 - 11 Turkish regiment
 - 13 Chief of the jinn
 - 14 Male singing voice
 - 19 Football players
 - 21 Sloth
 - 24 Toward the centre
 - 25 To place
 - 26 Roman household gods
 - 27 Possesses
 - 28 Bottle-top
 - 30 To append
 - 32 Light brown
 - 33 Among
 - 35 Greek poetess
 - 36 Scent
 - 38 Prefix: good
 - 39 Goddess of peace
 - 40 Patagonian cavy
 - 41 Toward the mouth
 - 43 Group of three
 - 44 Greek coin
 - 45 Smooth
 - 47 Consumed
 - 48 Deed
 - 50 Assistance
 - 52 Preposition
 - 53 Note of scale

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



COMMONS QUESTION S

CAMP ITALIANS PUNISHED BEAT UP CARTOONIST

MR. G. STRAUSS (Soc.) raised questions regarding conditions at the Palace Internment Camp, Isle of Man.

He alleged that Italian internees were completely under the domination of an aggressive Fascist minority, who appointed themselves to all posts of responsibility, threatened those who had volunteered for the Auxiliary Pioneer Corps, and intimidated those who had not got Fascist sympathies.

He also said that Signor Cosomati, whose anti-Mussolini cartoons had been republished in the English Press, had been severely beaten up by two Fascists.

Mr. Morrison said he regretted that it was the case that Signor Cosomati was assaulted in the camp on Nov. 1, because of a cartoon published, he was informed, without his permission. Signor Cosomati failed to identify his assailant, but as a result of inquiries by the camp authorities two internees were on Nov. 13 sentenced to 21 days' detention in cells for having instigated the attack.

The segregation of Italian internees who could be classified as Fascist had to await accommodation, but the provision of a new camp enabled it to be effected on Nov. 14. His information did not confirm the allegations about the conduct of the Palace Camp, and as they constituted a serious reflection on those in charge of the camp he would be glad if Mr. Strauss would furnish him with the information on which he based his statement.

Mr. Strauss: I will certainly give that information.

Mr. Morrison said that everything would be done to prevent disturbances in camps. Moreover, it was the policy to segregate the Nazis from anti-Nazis, and so on.

"On the other hand," Mr. Morrison added, "I do hope that the majority of anti-Nazis will hold their ground. (Hear, hear.) Physical assault is one matter, but in the matter of contagion of opinion I hope the anti-Nazis will do their share of propaganda."

BRITISH TOILING FOR GERMANS

British soldiers are constructing roads, repairing bridges and erecting buildings in ruined Poland, a German paper published in Brussels discloses.

An article on new road and other constructions in Poland refers to the British war prisoners and says:

"Road labourers are seen everywhere who would scarcely have dreamed six months ago of being used for this kind of work. The last time they were seen was in a most desolate condition on the coast at La Panne and Dunkirk."

"Now they are found bending over their ruined heritage, roads left by their splendidly guaranteed war partner, Poland. They have the pleasure of doing something to atone for Poland's neglect."

The article says: "The Tommies do not take their work in a sporting spirit, but do their job." It is stated that a "certain amount of self-government is allowed within the camp. Authority is in the hands of an English regular sergeant with eighteen years' service."

The writer admits that the sergeant has "real military bearing," but gibes at the "very soft and slovenly" soldiers under him.

BILL GAVE THEM MUSIC

The B.B.C. is often accused of tying itself in red tape.

Here's the story of the man who cut all the knots and made sure that 2,000 factory workers and millions of listeners heard Music Hall.

If you enjoyed the show, take off your hat to Bill Barrett, just "one of the engineers."

To put the programme on the air, Bill "stole" a van and, though he hadn't a licence, drove it over craters, past unexploded bombs, and through cordons.

Outside a hall with no windows and precious little roof he stopped the van and rigged up mikes among the wreckage.

There, until after dark, he recorded the programme on gramophone records.

Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour, had arranged with John Watt, B.B.C. variety director, that an audience of factory workers should be given free tickets to hear Music Hall recorded at a Bristol hall every Saturday.

He Didn't Care

The artists turned up, so did the audience, but the hall had been wrecked and the recording lines to the B.B.C. smashed.

It looked as if there would be no broadcast. Then Bill came to the rescue.

"The show must go on," he said "I know where there is a recording van and I'm going to get it. I'll take the van and we can argue about it later."

When he reached the hall he found the crowd being entertained under what was left of the roof by Charlie Shadwell, Charlie Kunz, Douglas Byng and the rest of the gang.

It didn't take the engineers long to rig the mikes. Producer John Shadman carried straight on without rehearsal. They finished so late that the audience could not see the artists in the dark.

And Bill didn't get sacked — he got congratulated.

MARRYS PEN FRIEND

One of England's youngest war brides was sixteen-year-old Kathleen Enid Adey of Stream Park, Kingswinford, Staffordshire, who was married by special licence at Dudley to a twenty-year-old bombardier she met as a pen-friend.

Kathleen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Adey, was sixteen in September, when she left high school.

She first came to know the bombardier while at school last January. He is Eric John Elms, second son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Elms, of Wilford Road, Exeter, who joined the Royal Artillery in 1936. He was at Dunkirk.

While he was serving in France, Kathleen was asked to become a pen-friend to him.

SHE SAID FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE

A woman whose husband had bigamously married another declared that she married him "for better, for worse," and would take him back.

The Common Serjeant (Mr. Cecil Whiteley, K.C.), before whom the man appeared at the Old Bailey on a charge of bigamy, told the husband:

"You either become a husband and father again and do your duty, or, if you don't, you will come back here and get nine months. If you cannot face it, then take your nine months like a man."

Joseph Samuel Douglas Bell, aged thirty-seven, telephonist, pleaded guilty to bigamously marrying Miss Cissie May Davies, and was bound over on condition that he return to his legal wife.

For Children's Sake

Mrs. Bell told the Court that she did not divorce him because of the children, and because he would have lost his job.

"It is not for me to take the children's father from them," she said. "He loves his children. I am willing to have him back and make a fresh start. There is some manhood in him, and I am sure he will be all right if he is given a fresh start."

The Judge: What if he does not get his job back?—I married him for better or worse, and I am willing to start again and help him."

Mr. R. H. Blundell, prosecuting, said that Mr. and Mrs. Bell were married at East Wickham, Kent, in 1927, and there were four children.

He lived on good terms with his wife till September, 1937, when he said to her, "I have married another woman."

He Confessed

That woman was Miss Davies, whom he met in 1930. He told her he was single and they became engaged in 1933.

In 1937 she found herself pregnant and a marriage was arranged. Shortly after the birth of a still-born child Bell confessed to Miss Davies.

The whole position was discussed by the parties and it was decided that Bell should continue to live with Miss Davies, visit his wife and children, and pay his wife an allowance. His wife had said that she was never in need.

In September, 1939, Miss Davies had a daughter which was now in a home.

DUDLEY HOUSE DAMAGED

One of the largest private houses in London, Dudley House, Park Lane, was damaged in an air raid recently. There were no casualties.

The house was built in 1824 by Lord Dudley, at one time Foreign Secretary, and was a notable centre for musical and other receptions.

Some years ago Mr. Whitelaw Reid bought it for his daughter, Lady Ward, who was married to the late Lord Dudley's younger brother. Last year Mrs. James Corrigan, the American hostess, rented it for two months of the season for £5,000.



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BRITAIN'S HEALTH

It is an interesting fact that in spite of gloomy prognostications, the health of the British people sleeping in air raid shelters and, incidentally, their morale, has not deteriorated during the past winter months, a period of the year which is usually associated with colds, influenza and similar complaints.

Air raid shelters are not and cannot be the most salubrious places in the world. Combined with lack of fresh air they are for the most part filled to capacity so that one sick person could presumably infect a score of others. But contrary to medical and health theories, this has not happened. The people emerge from their crowded night quarters each morning still unburdened with unpleasant germs. All of which is probably due to the fact that under present conditions they have no time to devote to their own physical disabilities, and although they have gone through months of the most nerve-racking experiences, in the most uncomfortable of conditions, they remain healthily on their feet.

Compared with total population, the number of air raid shelters does not seem very high, but they are probably adequate. At all events, in London alone public night accommodation is now available for nearly one and a half million and when the severity of the raid demands it, this number goes underground. Londoners, accustomed to tubes, perhaps take more readily to shelters than those living in provincial towns, who prefer to remain in their own quarters however great the risk.

The official precautions taken on behalf of the public include 1,800 first aid posts and 800 mobile first aid posts. Emergency hospital service has been highly organised in anticipation of an invasion and a quarter of a million beds for air raid casualties were arranged although few have up to now been used. The question of supplying those taking shelter with food was a difficult one, but that the problem is being vigorously tackled can be gathered from the fact that there are over 1,800 canteens in London alone.

One other point that denotes the highly organised state of the country: this is the provision which is being made for the benefit of those in-

ABOUT a week before the war started, I was hearing from somebody whose part in it was certain to be very prominent what course he thought it would take.

He was convinced that strategically the crucial point was the Suez Canal and that the Germans would be on the shores of the Black Sea by March.

He was equally convinced that the moment war was declared the British and French fleets in full-strength should support a 24-hour ultimatum to Italy demanding immediate demobilisation with war as the alternative.

At the time I disagreed with such a drastic proposal because I believed that even at so late an hour it was still possible to secure neutrality at a price, and I knew that hardly one in twenty of the people of Italy desired war.

What seemed to me essential was to save the face of the Fascist leaders by the offer of Tunis, Djibouti, certain parts of British West Africa and the freedom of the Suez Canal.

Coinciding with such an offer, it would have been necessary to make it clear that failure to accept it would involve the Italians in the risk of losing the whole of their African Empire, not even excepting Eritrea, if Britain and France were victorious.

In the circumstances, we should probably have been wise to deliver that ultimatum because during the nine months in which the plans of Mussolini were maturing we did everything possible to convince the Italian leaders that the Germans were bound to win, and, what's more, win before summer was over.

Yet even when Italy did declare war upon France and Britain a safety secret ballot of the country would have revealed hardly more than 20 per cent. of the population as in favour of war.

Those eighty per cent. whose hearts were not in the war at first are not feeling any more enthusiastic about it now when they are faced with the certainty, whatever may happen in Europe, of a hostile America from Labrador to Patagonia.

Even the leaders are nervous: that the Vichy Government will succeed in getting round the Germans and that Italy's African

Empire will be no more than dust and mirage when the victory has been won.

But what is our attitude toward the rival ambitions of France and Italy? The collapse of France has made an unequivocal statement imperative. Assuming that

Says Compton Mackenzie

our victory is decisive enough to dictate a peace, what future do we propose for Morocco, Algeria, Tunis and Syria?

Had any of the four declared for General de Gaulle we should make it clear now that if within a certain date they do not declare for him we shall regard with indifference the occupation of Morocco by Spain, of Tunis by Italy, and the division of Algeria between Spain and Italy.

We should proclaim our own intention to create an independent Syria with the same rights in it secured for ourselves as we have secured in Egypt by the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty.

On the other hand, we should notify the Italians that if after such a declaration about the Mediterranean future they persist in supposing that they must try to help the Germans beat us we shall not merely put every Italian out of Africa but hoist them with the petard of ethnical origins by handing over Sicily to Greece.

During the last war there was a strong movement below the surface among Sicilians for incorporation in the British Empire, and I fancy if Hitler were dictating our strategy he would have achieved an occupation of Sicily by now.

* * *

Propaganda should be concentrated on Italy. Italy, not Germany, is the country in which to drop leaflets, but let those leaflets provide hard facts and figures, not vague threats and ideological abstractions.

Instead of deporting Italians to internment camps overseas, they should be sent back to Italy.

Instead of giving the B.B.C. announcers schoolgirl sarcasms about Italy, which, with two

honourable exceptions, they read out, some like school-mistresses, others like complacent monitors, they should be given hard facts and accurate figures and ordered to read them unemotionally.

I do not suggest this out of consideration for the feelings of Italians, but because I know Italians to be impressionable and intelligent people.

During the first nine months of the war our propaganda in Italy was pitiable. Most of it was done in Rome and Florence, where Fascism is strongest, and it consisted largely of academic lectures on such subjects as 17th-century English poetry!

There is a proverb in Italy which reflects something like a natural instinct:

Con tutto il mondo la guerra, Ma la pace coll' Inghilterra.
War with the whole world, but peace with England!

* * *

Mussolini has challenged the validity of that old rhyme, and, except among his ersatz legionaries, an apprehension of doom now pervades the imagination of the Italian people. It is on this apprehension that our propaganda must play continuously.

The collapse of France has made the problem of the Mediterranean so much simpler that even the doubtful 20 per cent. in Italy who wanted war must be cursing the misjudgment of Mussolini in emerging from non-belligerency.

Let us teach this ringmaster that he is no lion-tamer. Greece has flung open the cage and given us the chance to chase him round the arena.

I do not think I am being misled by a romantic fancy when I say that history will record October 20, 1940, as a crucial date in the annals of the human race. That ultimatum, flung back by the Greeks, has offered us an assurance of victory beyond the power of any orator or even poet to express in words.

I am not going to discuss now the reasons that led to Mussolini's fatal decision for I behold him as a madman on whose destruction the gods have decided, praying at the same time, that our leaders will not fail to take the utmost advantage of this divine opportunity.

* * *

Once upon a time a colossus bestrode the harbour of Rhodes. It was held to be one of the seven wonders of the world, but an earthquake overthrew it and it has rusted away long ago beneath blue water.

Are we incapable of overthrowing a tinpot colossus like Mussolini? Is it to be seriously argued that we are incapable of assaulting the islands of the Dodecanese, the entire population of which cherishes a ferocious hatred of the Italians into whose hands, we repeat, we, the people of Great Britain, betrayed them in 1922?

We can atone for that betrayal now, and in wiping out such a blot upon our escutcheon we can make our strategic position more secure in regard to Syria. It is seldom granted to redeem dishonour with advantage.

No punishment is too severe for what Italy has done to Greece, but in justice to the Italian people let us give them the opportunity to repent.

We must bomb even Rome if necessary and of what it costs me to write that I envy no reader the mental experience. But we must shower leaflets as well as bombs. We must give the Italian people an opportunity to hear what will happen to them unless they exterminate their Blackshirts like cockroaches and renounce their betrayal of Europe by their bestial alliance with the barbarians.

And what gesture shall we make to Greece beyond aerial aid? Nearly 2,500 years ago the Athenian Army stood at Marathon to resist the might of Persia. They were joined out of all Greece by a thousand men from the little city of Plate which Athens had once befriended.

It looked at the time like certain death, but the Athenians, by employing the tactics which their descendants have just employed so successfully against a crack Italian division in the Pindus Mountains, scattering the Bersaglieri like barndoor fowls, won the most famous victory of recorded history.

Their gratitude to the Plateans was acknowledged by formal grant of Athenian citizenship. A short time ago we offered union to France if France would resist. France whimpered her refusal.

Might we not now offer to Hellas, not as a bribe, but as a thanks-giving, the freedom of the British Commonwealth?



MEDALS ARE POOR COMPENSATION.
"Hardly one in twenty of the people of Italy desired war."

Italians Isolated By Revolt

The meaning of Britain's victory over the Italian forces in North Africa can be grasped fully only by examining the plight of the 200,000 or so Italian soldiers and many civilians who have been bottled up in Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Italian Somaliland, with a revolt of the natives in Ethiopia already getting out of control.

Italians in East Africa are separated from their Mother Country, being surrounded by British possessions and cut off by sea by the British fleet which patrols the Red Sea and Indian Ocean.

Aside from the radio, the only existing communication between these colonies and Italy is a weekly aeroplane, which flies, when possible, from Asmara in Eritrea to Cufra (Tripoli) and from there to Rome.

From the Kenyan frontier envoys of Haile Selassie have found easy entrance into Ethiopia, through dense tropical forests which are difficult for the Italians

jured, which provides pensions for all persons over the age of 15. Families with incomes of £400 a year or under also receive immediate compensation for loss of essential furniture and clothing. Others are covered by the Government's new insurance scheme. These wise and humane provisions have doubtless contributed to the peace of mind of those living in danger zones, thus helping the undaunted citizen of Britain to maintain a sturdy body as well as a sturdy outlook on events.

to patrol. These envoys have brought into Ethiopia news of the war and of the return of the Negus to Africa, which they have spread throughout the tribes.

First Rebellion

The first sign of rebellion was on Sept. 12. In the village of Cu-ollu, in the Province of Gimma, the native population had been gathered to witness the hanging of three of the Negus' envoys, captured as they crossed the frontier. The Italian garrison was composed of one company of Fascist blackshirts and two battalions of native troops. As the Resident of the village, an Italian officer, read the sentence, shots were heard in the near-by forest thus giving the signal of revolt.

The two native battalions, recently enrolled, deserted and joined the rebels. In a short time, the blackshirts were practically wiped out; their captain being taken prisoner and transferred across the frontier to the British in Kenya.

When the Italian military command heard of this incident, Eritrean troops were sent to punish the rebellion. These found the village deserted and had to be content with burning it.

In the meantime, Abebe Regai escaped from the Italians and joined the Negus. During the Italian campaign in Ethiopia, Abebe Regai was commander of the Ethiopian garrison in Addis Ababa. After the Italian conquest he led successful spurts of rebellion. He had surrendered to the Italian Government only last spring.

With the news of the flight of Abebe Regai, a flame of rebellion spread throughout the tribes in Ethiopia and the situation became more serious, for the chief has the reputation of being the most able

and successful leader among the Ethiopians.

Followers Organised

Abebe Regai has organised a group of followers in Scioa. In November he nearly destroyed several squadrons of native cavalry commanded by Colonel Morigi. Abebe Regai surprised them as they patrolled mountainous country in the Scioan region. After a day's fight, Colonel Morigi was obliged to retreat to Addis Ababa, having lost 320 Ascarri and six officers.

These two incidents together with news of the return of Haile Selassie, have resulted in continual desertions of native troops organised by the Italians. Eritrean and Somali troops have remained faithful to the Italians and it is especially among the Amharic, Scioan, and Galla soldiers, more recently enrolled, that desertions have occurred. Deserters have found refuge in the forests from which have spread the word of rebellion. The few battalions of these tribes that have not deserted have been disarmed by the Italians, who cannot trust them any longer.

Large trenches and barbed-wire enclosures have been built around the principal cities of Ethiopia: Addis Ababa, Dessye, Dire-dawa, Harar, and Gondar. Behind these constructions the garrisons and colonisers have enclosed themselves. Travel between cities is done mostly by air and by caravans of armed trucks, escorted by speed tanks.

Troops Recalled

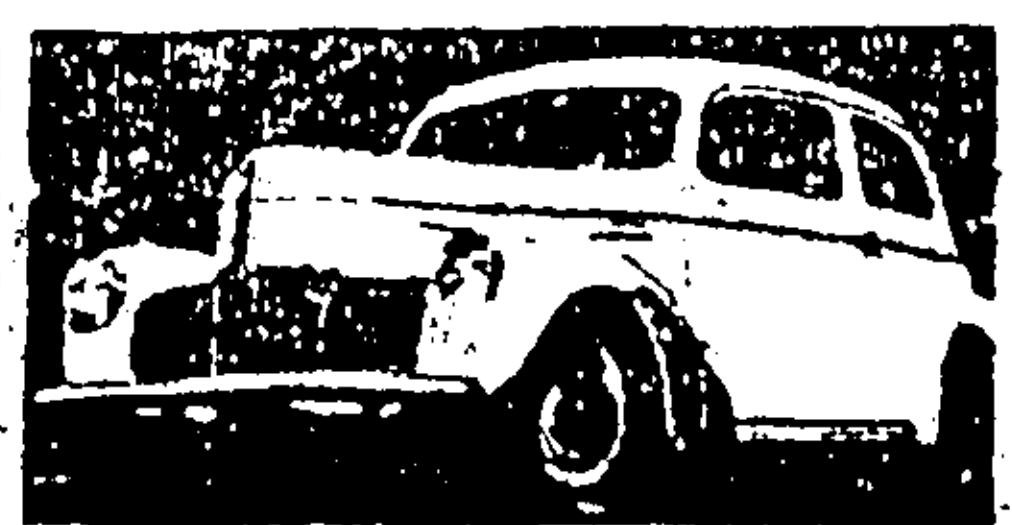
From Ethiopia's frontiers many troops sent to attempt an offensive thrust at Great Britain's colonies have been sent back to reinforce city garrisons.

After nightfall in the cities, even in Addis Ababa, no one is allowed to go out in the streets. Distrust reigns between the native population and the whites. Ras Ailu, considered faithful and friendly toward the Italians, is being watched.

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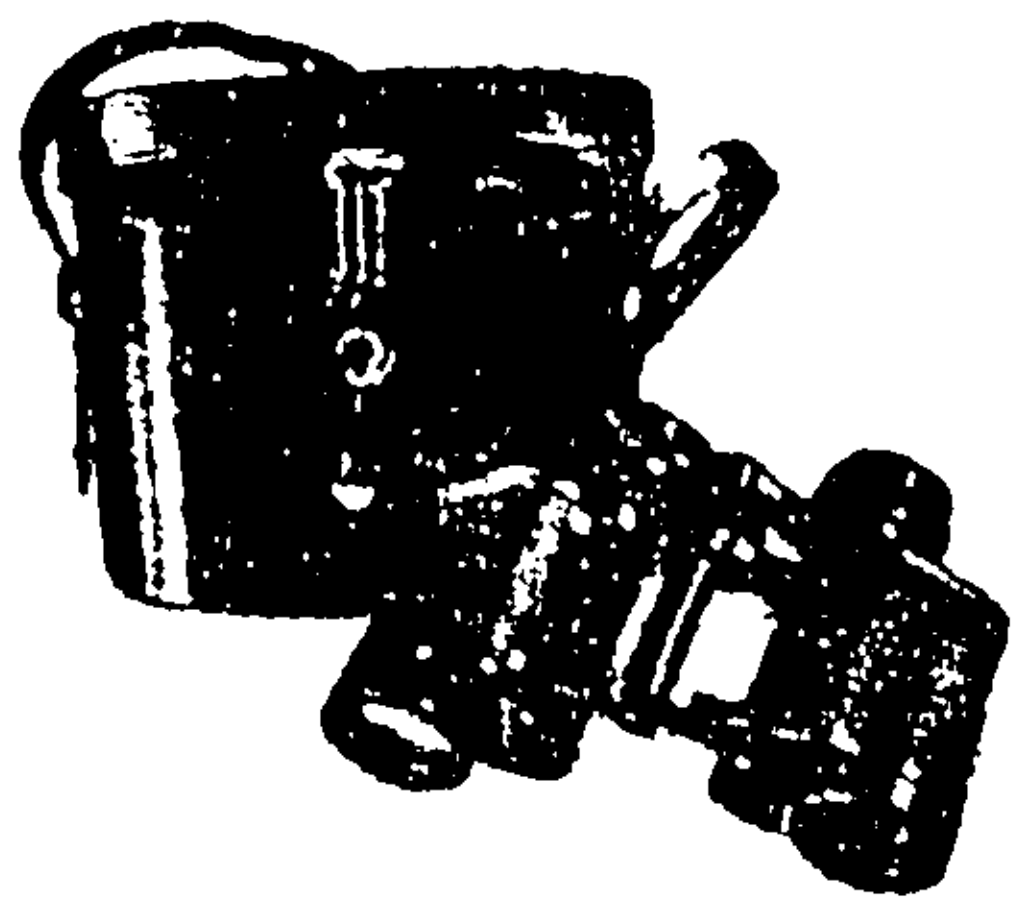
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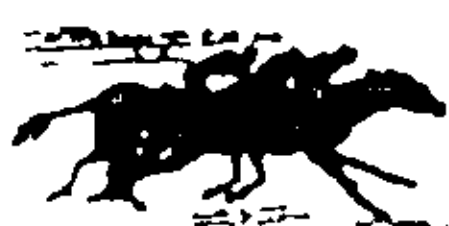
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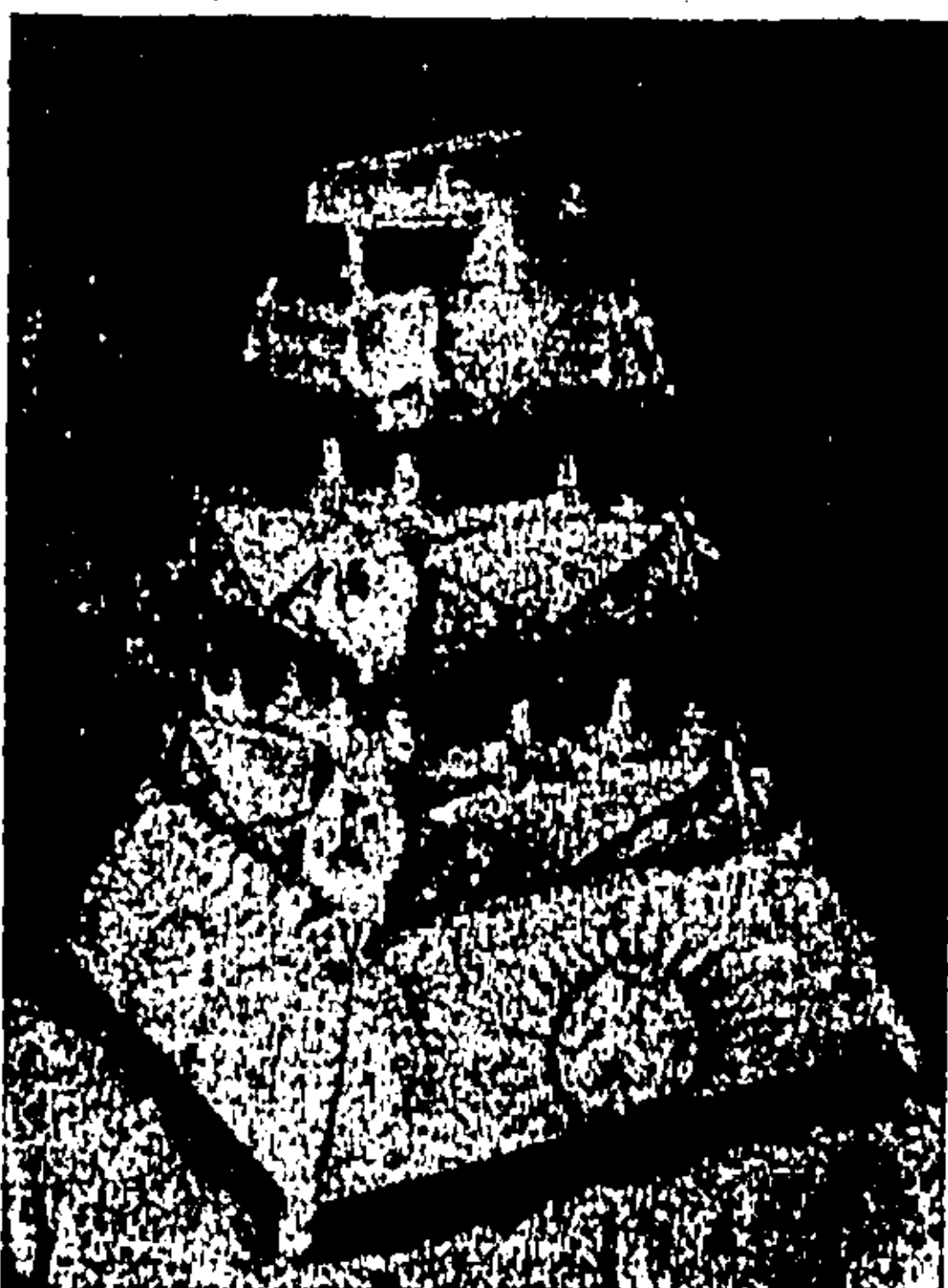
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INDIA COULD PUT 1,500,000 MEN INTO THE FIELD

INDIA, ALREADY playing an important role in the operations of the Near East and Africa, awaits only equipment to take a still far greater part than she has done hitherto in the Empire's war effort.

This was the encouraging message given recently to the House of Commons by Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, when he opened a debate on the war efforts of India, Burma and the Colonies.

"There is no scarcity of willing recruits," he said. "Some 25,000, indeed, of those who have offered themselves have had to be temporarily relegated. The other day, the announcement of 200 vacancies in the Indian Air Force Reserve brought in 18,000 applications."

In the last war India put over 1,500,000 trained men into the field. She could do so again, if so many were needed, if once the equipment was there.

All members of India's fighting forces were volunteers. "For the moment, equipment governs everything, and it is upon the equipment situation that the expansion of India's war effort has depended and will continue to depend."

Mr. Amery went on to speak of India's achievement already. The Indian Army was being expanded to 500,000 men from its peacetime strength of 160,000 men. Over 100,000 recruits had already been taken, of whom a large proportion were fully trained by now. Mechanical transport for this army had been expanded from 5,000 vehicles to 32,000 vehicles, and that number would be doubled this year.

Enthusiasm for Air

Some 60,000 of these troops were already serving overseas — in Malaya, Aden and the Middle East. A transport contingent which had distinguished itself in France was now in Great Britain. Indian troops had shown gallantry in Somaliland and at Gallabat. Others were defending Indian in the Far East.

Mr. Amery paid tribute to the help given by the Ruling Princes and by the Kingdom of Nepal.

Needs at home and in the Middle East had limited the expansion of India's Force, but there was great enthusiasm for the service in India. "Young Indians, with their quick minds and sensitive hands, take naturally to flying."

The Indian Navy had been more than trebled since the outbreak of war and was still being steadily increased.

Mr. Amery turned to the industrial contribution of India to the war effort.

Of 40,000 items which go to the equipment of a modern army, India already supplied more than half. In respect of 90 per cent. of military supplies she would be self-supporting so far as the requirements of her own forces were concerned.

There was however, still room for further expansion of India's effort. She had great reserves of industrial capacity which could be harnessed to war purposes. The Minister of Labour and himself had been concerting arrangements both for the despatch to India of an additional supply of competent instructors and the bringing of young Indian workers here to learn our methods and the spirit of British industrial organisation.

The Common Enemy

On the main issue there was certainly no divergence among the leaders of Indian opinion, whatever other differences there might be between us and between themselves. They knew that the defeat of the British Empire and the victory of the dictatorships would leave India defenceless against inevitable aggression, and that a Nazi victory would be a death blow to all they cared for in the world of politics.

That sympathy had been expressed in contributions that had poured in spontaneously from Indians in every walk of life, from ruling Princes to working men, both to the Viceroy's General War Purposes Fund and to every fund raised in this country for purposes connected with the war.

In large measure the defence of the Empire east and south of Suez, as well as the Middle Eastern front itself, would have to rest upon its own resources, and those resources in manpower, industry and raw materials were immense if they could be effectively combined and matched with each other.

The outcome of the Delhi Conference would be the growth of India's ability to provide her own defence and the enrichment of her productive power, which were the real sources of true independence, and it would strengthen her claim to full and equal partnership which the House wished to see her attain.

FOUGHT IN LAST WAR AT 13: HERE AGAIN

The youngest Canadian to fight in the last war is serving the Empire again.

He is Quartermaster-Sergeant D. Murdoch, of the Royal Canadian Engineers, now in England with his unit.

In the Great War he was a sailor. He joined the Navy in 1916, when he was thirteen years and ten months.

"I was driving along the street and the traffic lights were at red. I drew up, saw a recruiting poster, got out of the car and enlisted. If the traffic lights had been at green I should not have been here now," said the young Canadian.

SERVICE FOR LATE LORD LLOYD

The Prime Minister and Mrs. Churchill and members of the War Cabinet attended yesterday morning a memorial service for Lord Lloyd at Westminster Abbey.—British Wireless.

WRIT AGAINST BISHOP

Members of the Cement Federation have issued a writ against the Bishop of Birmingham (Dr. Barnes) in respect of a speech he made at Birmingham recently.

During his speech the Bishop referred to production of air-raid shelters, and criticised what he described as "a cement ring."

LONDON GETS EARLY WARNING

London had a short alert after dark last night, the first to be heard at such an early hour for several nights.

An enemy plane which attacked the Dover balloon barrage yesterday was badly damaged by a Spitfire, with smoke pouring out.

An Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security communique last night said: "A few enemy aircraft, for the most part flying singly, have crossed our coasts during daylight to-day."

"Bombs were dropped at points in East Anglia and north Scotland. Damage caused was slight and casualties were very few."—Reuter.

A.R.P. SHELTERS IN 2,500 NEW HOUSES

Coventry is building 2,500 new fireproof houses with air raid shelters inside them.

The shelter opens into the kitchen. The walls are of fourteen-inch solid brickwork, and it has two layers of reinforced concrete over it.

It is big enough to take full-sized mattresses, which can be fitted one above the other, like bunks.

As the shelters are built into the houses, and as the houses are in blocks of four and six, the adjoining walls act as buttresses.

Details of this latest idea in air-raid protection were given by Mr. E. Gibson, Coventry city architect, in an address in London.

Coventry, he said, is one of the few places where house building is continuing during the war, the houses being wanted to provide accommodation for workers and their families who have been called to the city.

One of the difficulties was the lack of timber and steel, and ways had to be found for building with the minimum of these materials.

The main substitute is concrete, using a small amount of steel.

The floors contain sealed air cells which will stop cold from the ground from reaching the room.

The staircase is of concrete, and the only timber used is in the doors.

Country House Burned. — Fire destroyed Hall Place, Leigh, Kent, the country mansion of Lord Hollenden, whose London house was bombed recently.

SHORT SHARP AIR FIGHT

An ME109 which dived to attack the Dover balloon barrage yesterday was itself dived on and attacked by a sergeant pilot of the Fighter Command, states the Air Ministry news service.

The sergeant pilot was on patrol in his Spitfire.

Describing the attack he said: "I was just below the cloud when the ME109 swept down from above me on to a barrage balloon.

He saw me and climbed, so I chased him and gave him a three or four seconds burst from astern.

He turned on his back rapidly losing height. Smoke was pouring from his when he disappeared into the clouds."

Since he did not see the enemy plane again the pilot only claimed he damaged the aircraft.

This sergeant pilot, who has given enemy planes to his credit recently borrowed his squadron leader's plane when his own Spitfire had been destroyed, got up in the borrowed plane and shot down an ME109, British Wireless.

LIT MATCHES, FINED £3

For showing a light by striking matches in a telephone kiosk, a naval officer was fined at Great Yarmouth.

A police officer said that following a complaint from a coastguard he found Lieutenant Charles L. Carroll, R.N.R., "striking matches for a lady who was telephoning."

When he spoke to the two, the woman said she could not see to dial, and witness told her to dial "0" and ask for her number.

An aeroplane was overhead, and he said that he expected to receive complaints about the light from the Fighter Command.

It was stated that many complaints had been received from the Fighter Command about lights on the sea front, and explanations were asked. This was the explanation.

Lieutenant Carroll, in a letter to the Bench, said he struck three matches for three separate telephone calls.

He was fined £3 and ordered to pay 3s. 6d. costs.

BURMA RD. RAIDS

Mr. Lauchlin Currie is to fly to Chengtu to-day or to-morrow and lay out part of the Burma Road. Japanese are bombing the road to impress the United States that China's export route is liable to be closed, but so far no success has been shown.

Despite the persistent raids on the Kungkuo bridge of the Burma Road, traffic has been going on without interruption.

It was on Japanese reports that the Shanghai correspondent of the New York "Times" incorrectly stated that traffic on the Burma was at a standstill.—International News Agency.

CHINA PROVIDENT DIVIDEND

At the Board Meeting yesterday, it was decided, subject to audit, to make the following recommendations to the shareholders at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting:—To Pay a Dividend of 50 cents per share \$221,106.50; To Pay a Bonus of 25 cents per share \$110,553.25; To Pay a Bonus to Staff \$25,000.00; To Transfer to General Reserve \$50,000.00; and To Carry Forward to 1941 Account \$60,490.10.

POSSESSED BY "MATRIMONY MANIA"

Jack Barrasford, aged forty-five, manager of a Carlisle cinema, was sentenced at the Old Bailey to twenty-one months' imprisonment for bigamously marrying two girls.

He was stated to have been convicted of bigamy in 1936.

The Recorder (Sir Gerald Dodson) told Barrasford that he seemed to have an "inordinate appetite," for matrimony. "Indeed," he added, "matrimony has become a mania."

CHUNGKING SNOW

After days of drought, snow began to fall in Chungking last night, Central News.

CHAMBER MOVING TO HONG KONG

IT IS REPORTED THAT THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN SHANGHAI, WHICH WAS RAIDED BY THE JAPANESE ON WEDNESDAY, WILL TRANSACT ALL ITS BUSINESS HEREAFTER IN HONG KONG, WHITHER ALL IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS AND ARCHIVES HAVE BEEN MOVED.

All certificates for Chinese-manufactured products which are absolutely required for shipments from Shanghai to Free China regions will be obtained in Hong Kong, it is added.

Meanwhile the new Chamber organised by the Nanking regime in Shanghai has begun operating, Reuter.

RED CROSS FUND NOW £4,335,000

Including gifts of £800 from Lima and £750 from Chile the Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross and St. John Fund for Wounded has now reached £4,335,000, British Wireless.

Col. de Wiart, V.C., who commanded the Allied Forces in Norway, is gazetted temporary major-general.

SOUND ARGUMENT!

AN OUNCE OF PROOF IS WORTH A TON OF TALK.

PINKETTES

THE GENTLE LITTLE LAXATIVE LIVER REGULATORS

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TOUGH TREAD
BLOWOUT PROTECTION
GREATER STRENGTH

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BANK HOLIDAYS

The EXCHANGE BANKS will OPEN at 9.30 A.M. and will CLOSE at 12 Noon for the Transaction of Exchange Business on MONDAY, and TUESDAY, the 17th and 18th February, (Race Meeting)

Hong Kong, 14th Feb., 1941

THE "STAR" FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED

Notice to Shareholders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FORTY-THIRD ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF THIS COMPANY will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., on FRIDAY, the 28th February, 1941, at 11.00 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1940.

The Register of Shares of the Company will be CLOSED from Wednesday, the 15th February 1941, to Friday, the 28th February, 1941, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

C. M. MANNERS
Secretary & Manager.

Hong Kong, 12th Feb., 1941.

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at the Head Office of the Corporation, No. 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, on WEDNESDAY, the 26th February, 1941, at Noon for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1940.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be closed from Thursday, the 13th February to Wednesday, the 26th February, 1941 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

V. M. GRAYBURN,
Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, 7th February, 1941.

FOR SALE

HONG KONG DOLLAR DIRECTORY 1941 EDITION.—On sale at all Bookstalls and at the Offices of the Publishers, Windsor House, Des Voeux Road, Central. Telephones: 20022 & 20011.

TUITION GIVEN

EXPERT Instructors for ladies and young girls in music, shorthand, typing, bookkeeping and English and French. Apply, 24 Austin Road, Kowloon.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS



NOTICE

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS DURING THE RACES

1. It is hereby notified that on the days fixed for the Annual Race Meeting at Wong-Nei-Chong (February 15th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 22nd), the following Regulations, under Ordinance No. 2 of 1869, will be in force:—

- All vehicles going to the Races at Wong-Nei-Chong will proceed clockwise round Happy Valley via Wong-Nei-Chong Road to the entrance gates.
- Vehicles must proceed at a slow speed in the vicinity of the Race Course.
- Vehicles will be parked in the vicinity of the Race Course as directed by the Police on duty.
- Dogs are not allowed on or near the Race Course. Any dog found straying on or near the Race Course is liable to be destroyed.

Note.—Kennedy Road will be open to light motor traffic from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

11. Extra Race Meeting during the year 1941.—On days fixed for Extra Race Meetings.

One way traffic will be enforced in Wong-Nei-Chong Road. Kennedy Road will not be open to motor traffic.

PARKING OF CARS AT THE RACE COURSE

- The Stand at the public entrance is reserved for Jockey Club Stewards and Officials only.
- Morrison Hill parking ground opposite Civil Service Club and Village Road reserved for Private Cars.
- Ventris Road reserved for Public Cars.

C. G. PERDUE,
Ag. Commissioner of Police
Hong Kong, 14th February, 1941

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

FRIDAY, 14th February, 1941 commencing at 2.30 p.m. at their Sales Room,

No. 35, Hankow Road, Kowloon

A QUANTITY OF VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

comprising:—

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also
A Few Pieces of Blackwood Furniture

and

3 Bed Room Suites

1 Dining Room Suite

1 Portable Typewriter "Remington"

1 "Agfa" Cine Projector 16 mm

A.C./D.C. 110-220V.

On View from Thursday, the 13th February, 1941.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,

Auctioneers.

Hong Kong, 11th February, 1941.

WARNING

Business Houses are hereby warned that all payments in connection with the 1941 edition of The Hong Kong Dollar Directory should be made at the Offices of the publishers through the post or by cheques.

No one is authorised to visit offices and collect money on behalf of this publication.

THE PUBLISHERS,
The Newspaper Enterprise, Ltd.
Windsor House.

BRIDGE NOTES

CRIME DOESN'T PAY! NO. 30

By The Four Aces

The sleuths of our crime series may have a little trouble with today's study in Bridge criminology:

South, Dealer
East-West vulnerable
North-South part score 30

♠ K 9
♥ A Q 10 5
♦ Q 10 8 4
♣ A J 9

♠ J 10 5
♥ 2
♦ J 5
♣ 10 7 6 5

♠ 6 2
♥ K 9 8 7
♦ 4 3
♣ K 7 6 3

♠ A Q 8 7 4 3
♥ J 6
♦ A 9 2
♣ Q 8

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2NT	3♥
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West opened the deuce of hearts, dummy winning with the Ace. After drawing three rounds of trumps, South led the Jack of hearts. East took his King and returned a heart for lack of anything more promising. South discarded two diamonds, returned to his hand via the diamond Ace, and led the Queen of clubs. When this was finessed, East won his blank King but South won the rest, making his contract with two overtricks.

The evidence is all in, and you should be aware of the heinous crime that was committed. See if you can spot the crime and the criminal before you read on.

South was the criminal, and his crime occurred during the bidding. He should have passed East's horrible vulnerable bid of three hearts to North; and North would have doubled with great gusto. Correct defence would then have held East to three tricks, for a penalty of 1,700 points!

South attempted to justify his criminal bid of three spades by pointing out that he had a good rebiddable spade suit and that the bid was enough for game. Furthermore, he added, North might be "stuck" for a bid if unable to double three hearts. North justly replied that he couldn't have a hand which was worth two no-trump but not worth either a double of three hearts or some rebid. This fact that South's bid was enough for game was absolutely irrelevant. The penalty double was worth four times as much as the game!

Yesterday you were Oswald Jacoby's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held:

♠ J 3
♥ K J 5
♦ K Q 4 2
♣ Q J 7 3

The bidding:

You	Maier	Jacoby	Schenker
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
(7)			

ANSWER: Bid two diamonds. If your partner has a legitimate opening bid (as is likely) he will rebid; and you can then make a strong bid. It is wise to allow leeway to partner's third-hand bid, since it may not be altogether sound.

Score 100% for two diamonds; 90% for two clubs; 60% for two no-trump; 0 for any other bid.

Question No. 639

To-day you are the dealer and hold the following hand:

♠ K Q J 10 6
♥ K 8 6 3 2
♦ Q J 7
♣ 4

What do you bid? (Answer—To-morrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

SHOT WIFE —DIED IN REMORSE

An inquest jury decided that an R.N.R. commander shot his wife dead with a revolver he thought was unloaded, and then killed himself with the revolver through remorse.

Evidence was given that he drank excessively and had fits of temper during which he struck his wife.

The inquest was on Commander Wilfred Stanfield, R.N.R., aged forty-seven, and his wife, Louise, aged forty-three, who were shot in their home in Wilton-crescent Shirley, Southampton. The verdicts were Manslaughter and Suicide.

A friend, Mrs. Cissie Julia Blake, said that she was called to the house by Mrs. Stanfield, Commander Stanfield was standing before the fire, the knuckle of one of his hands was injured. His wife's mouth was bleeding.

"I Will"

Mrs. Stanfield said: "Look what he has done. He says he will shoot me." Commander Stanfield said: "I will."

Mrs. Blake said she told the commander not to be foolish, but he went upstairs and rummaged in drawers.

She told Mrs. Stanfield to come to her house.

"I followed her to the hall and saw her on the stairs," said Mrs. Blake. "I heard her cry, 'Oh, Wilf.' She turned and I opened the front door to run out. I heard a shot and a fall, and then a second shot and a thud."

A police officer suggested that Commander Stanfield might have "broken" his revolver to unload it, but that only four of the cartridges might have been ejected, leaving two in the chamber without his knowledge.

The commander was a former chief officer of the liner Empress of Britain.

WARN HUNS TO IMPROVE CAMPS

A major general wants Britain to warn Germany that unless conditions are improved in camps for prisoners of war, German captives in England will be treated in the same way.

He is Sir Alfred Knox, Conservative M.P. for Wycombe.

Sir Alfred will ask Mr. Eden, the War Minister, if he knows that British prisoners in Oflag, VII C (a notorious internment camp) are sleeping twenty-seven in a room 16 to 17 ft. square.



After a hard day at work the father who must play Santa Claus wishes the masquerade would end.

CHAMBERLAIN'S REASON FOR BECOMING M.P.

The desire to improve conditions of life for the people was the reason why the late Mr. Neville Chamberlain entered Parliament.

This was stated in a letter which Mrs. Chamberlain sent to the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor W. Martineau, thanking him for a message of condolence sent on behalf of the City Council and people of Birmingham on the death of her husband.

"He always looked back to his years on the Council as some of the happiest in his life," she wrote. "I remember that the two committees on which he elected to serve when he first entered the Council were those then known as the Health and Housing Committee and the Town Planning Committee."

"It was the experience and insight gained on those committees which strengthened his passionate desire to improve the conditions of life for the people."

"It was this desire which caused him to enter Parliament and subsequently to devote himself to his work as Minister of Health."

Airmen Refused Accommodation.—Richard Johnston Ashton, and his wife, Annie Berenice Ashton proprietors of the Viaduct Hotel, Carlisle, were fined £3 at Carlisle for refusing accommodation to four airmen who were travelling North.

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



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Here's Luck

EWO BEER

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THE CHINA MAIL, FEBRUARY 14, 1941.

£2,500 IN SHELTER

When Stanley Thomas Hammond, 23, a soldier, was charged at Tottenham with stealing £2,500 from Mrs. Annie Young, a widow, Newton Road, Tottenham, Mrs. Young said the money was part of £3,000, her life savings, which it was her practice to take with her to a public air-raid shelter every night.

Hammond, a friend of her son, used to return home with her in the early hours, and on Oct. 22, when he did so, she put the attachment containing the money in a bag and left the house. On her return the £2,500 was missing. Hammond was committed for trial.

BRITAIN'S FIRST SHELTER CHAPLAIN

Britain's first official Honorary Shelter Chaplain has been appointed by a committee of Romford (Essex) Borough Council.

He is the Rev. Wilson Bridge, thirty-five-year-old Congregational minister.

He originally undertook the job without official status because, as he explains, "It was the wish of the people. I saw the job there to do, so began to do it. And it is unpaid."

City Sheriff Killed.—Mr. G. Percy Trentham, building contractor and engineer, who was elected a sheriff of the City of London at the end of June, was killed in a recent air raid. Mr. Trentham was a layman of five City companies.



BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. KING GEORGE VI

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Sanderson's LUXURY BLEND SCOTCH WHISKY

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York Building, Hong Kong. Distilled and bottled in Scotland by Wm. Sanderson & Son, Ltd., LEITH

ESTABLISHED 1863

Strike Spreads To S'hai's Red Light Zone

SHANGHAI'S FAMED "red-light district" in the vicinity of Yu Ya Ching and Foochow Roads faces a black-out unless the 350-odd sing-song house operators succeed in reaching an agreement with their 1,500 employees over the salary question.

The dispute brewing for nearly a week came to a head recently when a representative of the operators told the employers that their demand for a 100 per cent pay increase had been rejected "without reservation."

Among workers employed by sing-song houses are a number of night pullers whose duty it is to chauffeur the entertainers to their "clients", personal maids of the entertainers, cooks and servants of the houses.

In rejecting the workers' demands, the employers pointed out that most of the earnings come from tips given them by customers. Ever since the sing-song house became an established institution as a place of entertainment it was a place where workers employed as night pullers, maids, etc., were not paid a regular monthly salary at all or are paid only nominal wages.

The workers concerned were reported undecided whether they would immediately go on strike. Should a strike be declared, the most hard-hit parties will be restaurants and hotels in the downtown district where fun-makers gather to be entertained by the sing-song girls.

PASSENGERS AS BUS CONDUCTORS

Birmingham City Corporation are to ask men to volunteer as part-time bus conductors between the rush hours of 4.30 and 6 o'clock.

"The men who are chosen will be given an armed, Birmingham City Transport Auxiliary Conductor," an official of the Transport Department stated.

"Volunteers will board the bus at special places. They will stand on the platform and call out stopping places."

"They will learn the bell signals. They must prevent passengers rushing the bus."

"We want the men to be familiar with the route on which they will work."

"On Saturdays we shall ask volunteers to work between the rush hours of 12 and 1.30."

"If they take fares on the platform they must be paid over to the proper conductor. The scheme will help services overcrowded at present."

"At the moment we are putting three hours' work into one."

LOCAL SHARES

H.K. GOVT. LOANS
4% Loan 96 b.
3½% Loan (1934) 94 b.
3½% Loan (1940) 93½ b.

BANKS
Hong Kong Bank \$1400 s.
Bank of East Asia \$76 b.

INSURANCES
Union Ins. \$407½ b.
H.K. Fire Ins. \$107½ b.

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, ETC.
H.K. Docks (Old) \$17.80 s.
Providents \$5.95 b., \$5¼/85 sa.
LANDS, HOTELS & BLDGS.
H.K. Lands \$34¼ s.
H.K. Lands 4% Debentures \$97½ b.
Humphreys \$7.05 sa.
H.K. Realities \$3¼ s.

PUBLIC UTILITIES
H.K. Tramways \$18 s.
Star Ferries \$56½ b.
China Lights (Old) \$6 b.
H.K. Electric (Old) \$40 sa.
Sandakan Lights \$12 sa.
Telephones (Old) \$24¼ sa.

INDUSTRIALS
Cements \$17½ b., \$17½ sa.
H.K. Ropes \$8½ sa.

STORES, &c.
Watsons \$11 b., \$11.05 s., \$11 sa.

LAST DAY'S SALES
55 H.K. Banks @ \$1415
100 Docks (Old) @ \$17.80
1,500 Providents @ \$5¼
3,000 Providents @ \$5.80
500 Cements @ \$17½
100 Sand. Lights @ \$12
333 Humphreys @ \$7.05 X.D.
250 Electric (Old) @ \$40
200 Ropes @ \$8½

TEAMS FOR VOLUNTEER CRICKET WEEK

The following teams have been selected to represent Volunteers in their annual cricket week which starts on Monday.

MONDAY (V. H.K.C.C.) at Chater Road, 2 p.m.: E. C. Fisher (Capt.), K. M. Baxter, R. T. Broadbridge, W. S. Gegg, G. N. Gosano, J. M. Gosano, L. G. Gosano, T. A. Madan, P. M. N. da Silva, A. Zimmerman and E. Zimmerman.

TUESDAY (V. H.K.C.C.) at Cocks Road, 2 p.m.: H. Owen Hughes (Capt.), G. G. Atkinson, D. G. Day, G. N. Gegg, L. G. Gosano, R. H. Griffiths, J. L. Bailey, D. O. Parsons, L. T. Ride, P. M. N. da Silva and E. Zimmerman.

WEDNESDAY (Officers and Sergeants) at H.K.C.C., 2 p.m.: Officers and Sergeants: H. Owen Hughes (Capt.), D. J. N. Anderson, J. Barrow, A. E. Perry, J. E. Potter, L. T. Ride, A. M. Rodrigues, I. P. Tamworth, R. D. Walker, G. S. Winch and E. Zimmerman.

Other Ranks: R. H. Griffiths (Capt.), K. M. Baxter, D. J. Bosquet, E. F. Fisher, W. S. Gegg, L. G. Gosano, D. Hung, D. O. Parsons, C. M. Stark, A. Zimmerman and F. R. Zimmerman.

SCOTS WIN BOXING

The Royal Scots proved much too good for Middlesex last night in the finals of the army novices' boxing tournament and they won by 28 points to 16, scoring five knockouts, three technical knockouts and four victories on points.

Results:
Bantamweight: Pte. Ellis (Scots) beat Pte. Anderson.
Featherweight: Pte. Pacey (Middlesex) beat Pte. Woodrow, Pte. Hanshaw (Middlesex) beat Pte. Ritchie.
Lightweight: Pte. Cooke (Scots) beat Pte. Crafton, technical knockout, Pte. Laws (Scots) beat L/Cpl. Hill, knockout, Pte. McCall (Scots) beat Pte. Lanagan.
Welterweight: L/Cpl. Hunter (Scots) beat Pte. Coleman, technical knockout, Pte. Meikle (Scots) beat Pte. Nash, knockout, Pte. Black (Scots) beat Pte. Toomey, technical knockout.
Middleweight: L/Cpl. Chalmers (Scots) beat Pte. Burdge, knockout, Pte. Greig (Scots) beat L/Cpl. Munchebach, knockout, Pte. Auld (Scots) beat Pte. Hogan, knockout.
Light-heavyweight: Pte. Wilson (Scots) beat Pte. Cooper.
Heavyweight: Lieut. Hunter (Scots), walkover.
Welterweight: Pte. Urquhart (Scots) beat Pte. Byford.

LOCAL POLO

The first game in an American Polo tournament for the "Lady Stubbs Cup" was played at Boundary Street on Wednesday, when "A" team (Capt. T. W. Chattey, Col. D. Way, Major W. Morgan and Lieut. Hancock) beat "S" team (Capt. Forrester, Mr. Bousfield, Capt. W. H. Chattey and Capt. Atkinson) by six goals to four.

To-day, weather permitting, two games will be played, "A" versus "D" at 4.15 p.m. and "B" versus "C" at 5.15 p.m.

The "B" and "D" teams are as follows:
"B"—Capt. Monro, Major Hunt, Mr. Stanton and Mr. Lewis.
"D"—Lieut. Feilden, Major Penfold, Major Trevor and Captain Guest.

JUNIOR CHESS TITLE

Three matches in the first round of the junior chess championship were held yesterday at the Peninsula Hotel when W. Lee beat A. Morton; V. V. Kolatchoff beat J. H. d'Almeida and J. Grefalda beat R. C. Gardner.

In the senior tournament, G. S. Coxhead beat D. E. de Carylho, former champion.

INTERPORT HOCKEY PRACTICE

By "Sportshawk"

The Colony Interport Probables were fully extended by the Combined Police yesterday at King's Park in a practice hockey game which resulted in a goalless draw.

The Probables missed the services of 2/Lt. Cole on the right-wing, which position was taken over by H. L. Ozorio, while the Police were at full strength, with the exception of Brown, who played for the Probables.

The game was played at a fast pace and on some occasions good movements were witnessed.

Benwell showed his usual steady form between the sticks, especially in the first half, when he spoiled several Police raids with his timely interceptions.

J. Gonsalves was the better of the two Probables backs, although he was guilty in some instances of mis-hitting; he covered Bond, who was shaky, well.

Reed At His Best

The pivot, W. A. Reed, was at his best, while R. Marques did well at right-half.

Among the forwards, E. Fowler and T. Whitley fully vindicated their selection. They combined very well, particularly in the second half.

Brown, on the left-wing, though not impressive, showed a good turn of speed and Rothwell, the Police right-half, was unable to check him.

For Police, Man Singh was safe in defence, Gough, who worked very hard throughout, distinguished himself at the pivotal position, while Parker and Howlett were impressive in the attack.

On the whole, the Police displayed better combination than the Probables, who were especially weak in taking short-corners.

PROBABLES:—Benwell; Bond and J. Gonsalves; R. Marques, W. A. Reed and N. Whitley; H. L. Ozorio, T. Whitley, G. Singh, E. Fowler and Brown.

POLICE:—Nalwant Singh; Man Singh and Blackburn; Rothwell, Gough and Hayward; Teja Singh, Howlett, Jesbir Singh, Parker and Narwant Singh.

KING'S COLLEGE SPORTS

The eleventh annual athletic meeting of King's College will be held on the South China track at Caroline Hill on February 28, commencing at 1.30 p.m. Mrs. J. J. Ferguson will present the prizes.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

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Reserve Fund £3,000,000
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52, Mosley Street, Manchester, 2.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking Business transacted.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and **FIXED DEPOSITS** received for One Year or shorter periods in Local or Other Currencies at rates which will be quoted on application.

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS also opened in Local Currency and Sterling with interest allowed at rates obtainable on application.

The Bank's Head Office in London undertakes Executor and Trustee business, and claims recovery of British Income Tax overpaid, on terms which may be ascertained at any of the Agencies and Branches.

R. A. CAMIDGE, Manager

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Authorised Capital \$50,000,000
Issued and Fully Paid-up \$20,000,000
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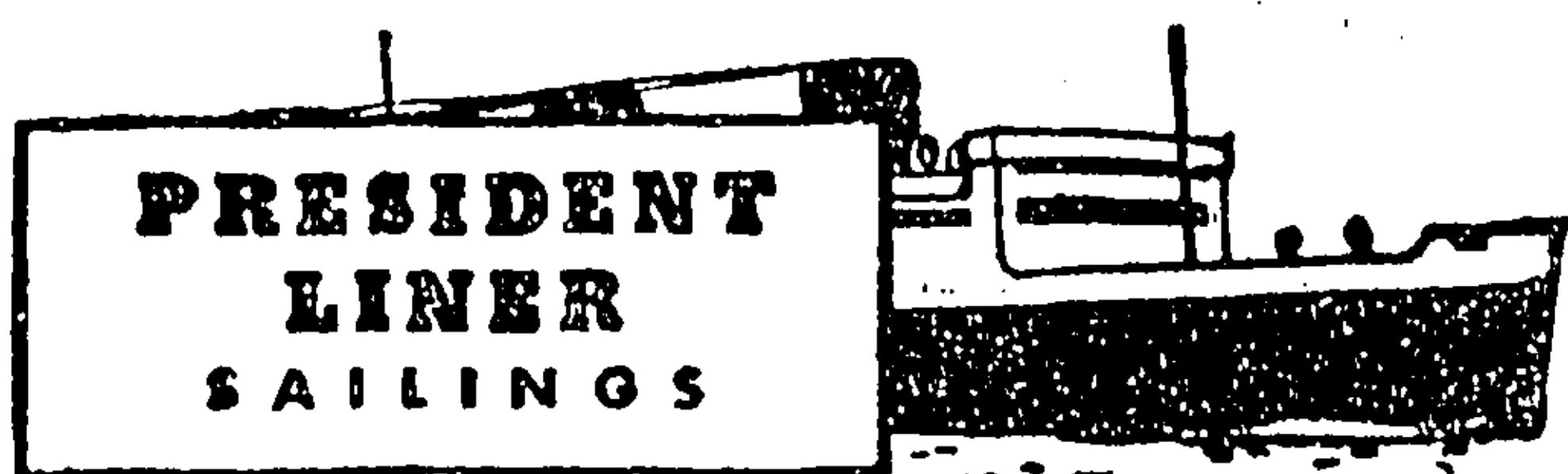
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RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Interces-
sion

12.30 p.m.—Songs by Leslie Hutchinson
at the Piano.

Says My Heart (film 'Cocoanut
Grove'); Two Bouquets (film
'Kickin' the Moon Around'); I Won't
Tell A Soul (Parker-Charles).

12.40 p.m.—Film Selections.

1.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Wea-
ther Report

1.03 p.m.—Compositions of Mozart.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press, Wea-
ther Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Variety.

2.15 p.m.—Close down

6.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quota-
tions

6.32 p.m.—The Mills Brothers, Jose-
phine Baker and Val Rosing in
Variety.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—"Questions of
the Hour".

7.30 p.m.—A Schubert Programme.

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather
Report and Announcements.

8.03 p.m.—An hour of Popular Classics.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News &
News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: 'Boys
and People'.

9.45 p.m.—Max Miller in the Theatre.

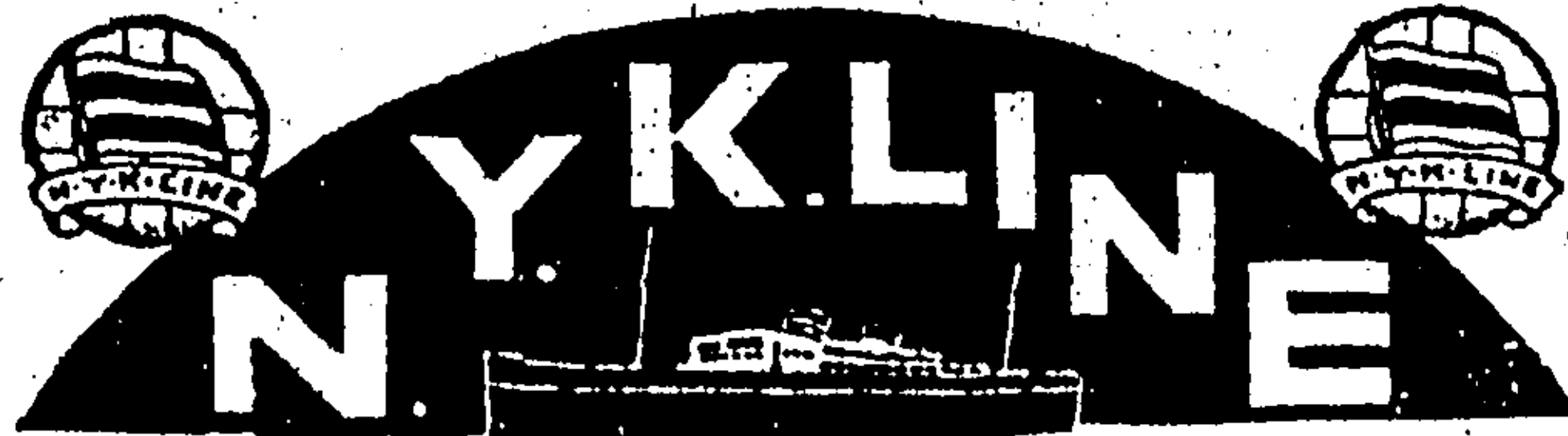
10.00 p.m.—Musical Comedy Selections.
The Vagabond King—Selection
(Friml); The Student Prince—Sele-
ction (Romberg) ... Drury Lane
Theatre Orchestra.

Music In The Air—Vocal Gems (Ham-
merstein & Kern) ... Light Opera
Company with Orchestra.

Running Riot—Selection ... Debroy
Somers Band.

10.30 p.m.—Dance Music by Ambrose
& His Orchestra.

11.00 p.m.—Close down.



SAN FRANCISCO & LOS ANGELES via Honolulu.

Tatuta Maru	Tuesday,	25th Feb.
Nitta Maru	Tuesday,	11th Mar.

SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (Starts from Kobe)

Hie Maru	Wednesday,	12th Mar.
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SOUTH AMERICA (WEST COAST) via Hilo &

San Francisco.		
*Sanuki Maru	Thursday,	20th Feb.

(starts from Kobe)

NEW YORK via Japan & Panama

*Nosiro Maru	Saturday,	15th Feb.
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SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila.

Husimi Maru	Wednesday,	26th Feb.
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SAIGON

*Dakar Maru	Sunday,	23rd Feb.
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(Cargo accepted for Saigon)

BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo

Anyo Maru	Saturday,	1st Mar.
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RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore

*Nagato Maru	Friday,	21st Feb.
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KOBE & YOKOHAMA

Tatuta Maru	Tuesday,	25th Feb.
Atuta Maru	Monday,	3rd Mar.
Nitta Maru	Tuesday,	11th Mar.

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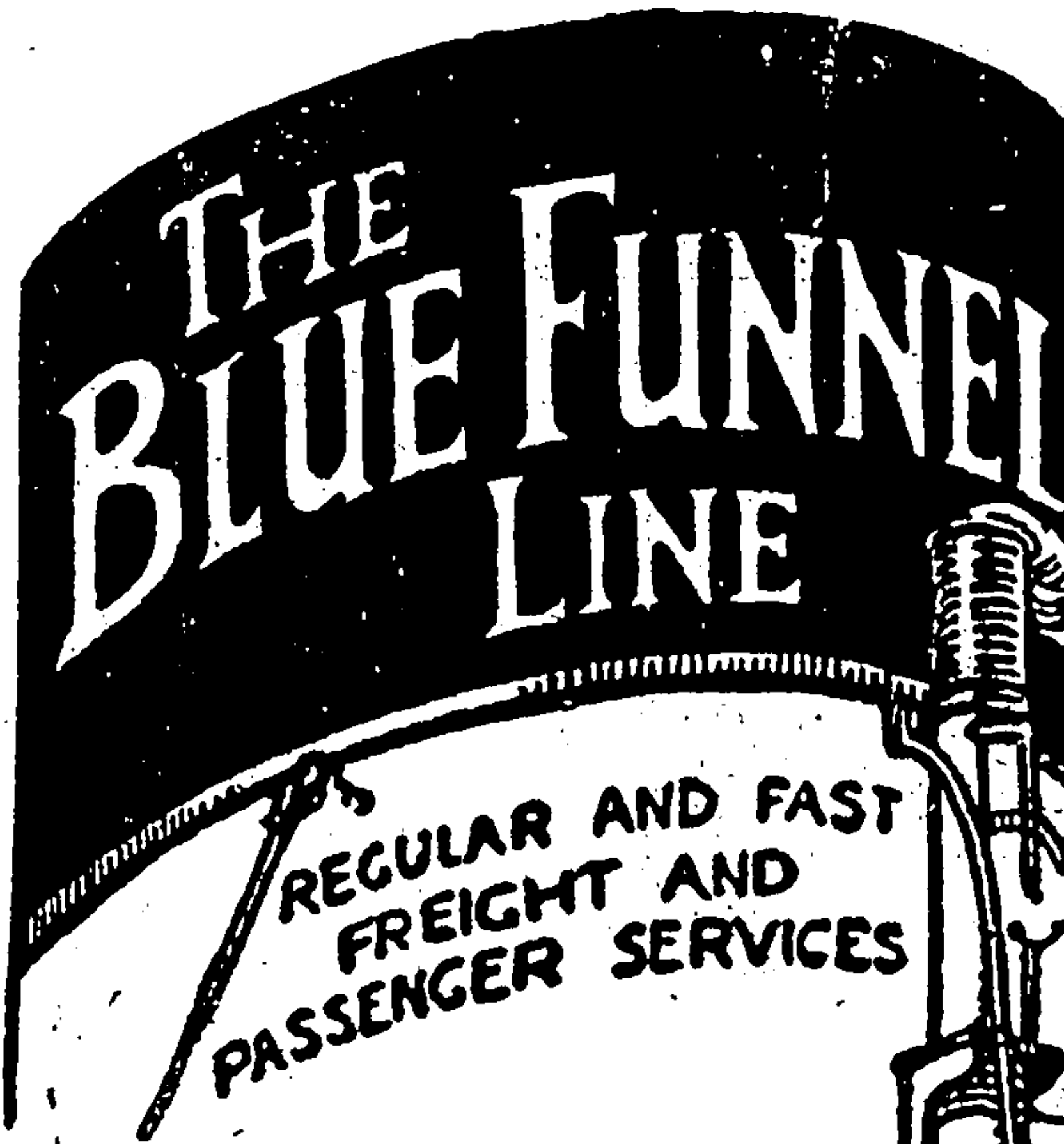
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PROSPECTS FOR FIRST DAY OF ANNUAL MEETING DISCUSSED

Lovelylight Should Win The Maiden Stakes Promise of Charlesber, Oolong, Velvetlight And Iron Beauty

By "Rapier"

THE STAGE IS ALL SET FOR THE 1941 ANNUAL RACING CARNIVAL UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, WHICH STARTS AT 11.00 A.M. TO-MORROW.

Racing in the Colony has gradually been attracting more and more attention, and interest this year has been greatly enhanced by the phenomenal demand for tickets in connection with the Special Dollar Sweep, which will be decided on the Rooty-Hill Derby.

The programme for to-morrow will consist of 12 events, most interesting of which should be the Challenge Cup, the Maidens, the three sections of the Sydney Maiden Stakes and Trial Plate.

RACE NO. 1: CHALLENGE CUP 1-3/4 MILES

The curtain will rise on this long-distance event, confined to China Ponies. In the corresponding race last year there was a brilliant finish, Navylight, ably ridden by Mr. "Boojie" Moller, just managing to snatch a victory from Confusion Bay (Mr. Black) by a neck.

To-morrow, the One Stable, represented by Navylight, will make an effort to win this Cup outright. This pony's chances, however, seem rather remote as it will have to reckon with Burford (Mr. S. W. Tang) and Confusion Bay (Mr. H. C. Pih).

On the strength of its win in the Hong Kong Autumn Championships (1-1/4 miles) in record time, Confusion Bay would seem to be the logical choice, as it is fighting fit at the moment but from my observations Burford has shown some improvement in form, and I shall not be surprised if it avenges its defeat at the hands of Confusion Bay.

This gruelling race should be between Confusion Bay and Burford, with Navylight a possible for a place. In any event it should be a grand race.

RACE NO. 2: SYDNEY MAIDEN STAKES (FIRST SECTION) 6 FURLONGS

This race will be contested by the first batch of new Australian Subscription Griffins, and from among the ponies entered I think the following are about the best, after having seen them in training for some time past:

Endeavour (Mr. Wei).
Royal Sovereign (Mr. Proulx).
Strathalbyn (Mr. Black).
Sydney Diamond (Mr. Chang).
United Express (Mr. Ip Kul Ying).

Endeavour has already established itself as a firm favourite for the Rooty-Hill Derby, and if it strips for this event, it should win comfortably. It is possible, however, that it may be reserved for the Australian Valley Stakes later in the day as the mile distance is more to its liking.

If Endeavour does not accept here, I would place Sydney Diamond as the next best, with United Express as the potential challenger, in view of its recent run over the mile in 1.55.1, with a last quarter of 20.

This pony is essentially a sprinter, and if it does not win here it should be borne in mind for future races over shorter distances.

Strathalbyn is another sprinter and, with Mr. Black on top, it will have to be considered a possible winner. Royal Sovereign has not shown what it is actually capable of doing; in training it completed the mile in 2.24.4 with a last quarter of 26.4. It may turn out to be a good short distance pony, and with Mr. Proulx on top it should not be far away at the finish. However, taking everything into consideration, I nominate Endeavour (if started) to win, with Sydney Diamond, United Express and Strathalbyn following in the order named.

RACE NO. 3: AUSTRAL VALLEY STAKES: ONE MILE

This race will serve to introduce the new Australian Griffins

to the racing public, and, based on training performances, I think the winner will come from one of the following:

Colooma (Mr. Black).
Distant View (Mr. Pih).
First Love (Mr. S. C. Liang).
King's Welcome (Mr. Needa).
With Distant View, Mr. Pih has a great opportunity of winning this race, but he may expect strong opposition from either King's Welcome or Colooma, both of which are capable of giving Distant View a good fight.

First Love is also considered good enough to extend those named above, and it may cause an upset here.

I expect to see the finish in the following order:—Distant View, King's Welcome and Colooma.

RACE NO. 4: SYDNEY MAIDEN STAKES (SECOND SECTION)

In this race for new Australian Subscription Griffins, the following should attract the most attention:

Black Seal (Mr. Chao).
Castle Hill (Mr. Black).
Santa-Anita (Mr. Liang).
Tobaccoship (Mr. P. P. Botelho).
Zadderday (Mr. Needa).

Santa-Anita is greatly fancied in view of its convincing gallop over the Champions distance in 2.26.3, but on the other hand Black Seal is also known to have done a good gallop over the Derby Distance. Castle Hill should also have something to say at the finish, while Tobaccoship and Zadderday are quite fast over sprint distances.

I nominate Santa-Anita to win, with Black Seal second and Castle Hill third.

RACE NO. 5: MAIDEN STAKES: SIX FURLONGS

The Maiden Stakes last year was won by the One Stable, whose representative Spicylight covered the six furlongs in record time. I am afraid that this year's finish will be another tame affair.

With the exception of Oolong, belonging to T. K. Li, I fail to see how any of the other ponies can possibly extend Lovelylight (Mr. Noodt) and Glossylight (Mr. Moller), both from the One Stable. It is possible that Oolong will be reserved for the Trial Plate, in which event Lovelylight and Glossylight are likely to come in first and second, with Eve of Grandeur and Odeon fighting out the third place.

RACE NO. 6: AUSTRAL MAIDEN STAKES: SIX FURLONGS

This is a sprint event for the new Australian Griffins, and out of the 36 ponies drawn for in this section, I do not think we need look further than the following for the eventual winner:

Canberra (Mr. Black).
Hascossay (Mr. Davis).
Fleetwing (Mr. Poy).
National Reform (Mr. Tao).
Mountain View (Mr. Pih).
Canberra is regarded in certain quarters as the likely winner, and I rather like it as it has the stamp of a good pony.

It may, however, meet with stern opposition from Hascossay, which is speedy over this distance. Much as I like Fleetwing and Mountain View, I do not think they will be fast enough here, but bear them in mind for the longer races.

National Reform is full of life, and once on the move it will not be easy to overtake.

My nominations, accordingly, are Canberra, Hascossay and National Reform.

RACE NO. 7: CORAL HANDICAP: ONE MILE

This is the first leg of the "Daily Double", confined to Australian Subscription griffins of previous years. It looks as if Sapper should win here, with Far View furnishing the opposition. Ridden by Mr. Davis, Sapper won the Queensland Autumn Champions at the Thirtieth Extra Race Meeting, and, as it is in fine shape at the moment, I recommend it to win.

Far View, although running unplaced in the Fremantle St. Leger at the Tenth Extra Race Meeting, should come in second as it is also in good condition, while the third place should be filled by Baffin Bay (Mr. Needa).

RACE NO. 8: AUSTRAL TRIAL PLATE: 1-3/4 MILES

This race will, no doubt, serve as a guide towards picking the ultimate winner of the Austral Derby, and, judging from the entries, I should not be far wrong in stating that the race will be fought out between the following:

Marsh Warbler (Mr. Black).
Nominie Poenae (Mr. Chao).
Prairie View (Mr. Pih).

Marsh Warbler has been consistently trained for this distance, and as it has invariably returned good times, it is strongly fancied to win. I think it will meet with strong opposition from Prairie View, for although this pony has not been much in the limelight over this distance, it is quite capable of winning.

Nominie Poenae has been whispered as the "dark horse" in this race, and for those who are prepared to take the risk, a bet each way may turn out to be profitable. I also recommend The Nineteenth Hole for consideration.

RACE NO. 9: SYDNEY MAIDEN

THE BIG SWEEP

Sales in the Big Sweep organised by Hong Kong Jockey Club on the Rooty-Hill Derby, at 9.30 this morning had reached 854,000 and it is fairly safe to say the first prize will be worth over \$400,000.

STAKES (THIRD SECTION): SIX FURLONGS

This is another sprint event for the third section of the new Australian Subs., and, on their training form, I am sure the following will be prominent at the finish:—

Bendemeer.
Manhattan (Mr. Hearne).
National Welfare (Mr. Tao).
Snow White (Mr. Pih).
Twinkling Star (Mr. Craven).
Vitamin M (Mr. Black).

I consider Vitamin M to be the best here, and in my estimation it should win comfortably, with Manhattan and National Welfare fighting it out for the other places.

I should state, however, that Bendemeer, if given a good jockey, will be dangerous and for those who are looking for a long shot I recommend this pony.

Snow White and Twinkling Star are also good over this distance.

This is the second leg of the "Daily Double".

RACE NO. 10: TRIAL PLATE: 1-3/4 MILES

Apart from Lovelylight, which is going out in the Maidens instead of this event, the result of this race should give an indication regarding the likely winner of the Hong Kong Derby.

The following will probably face the starter:—

Charlesber (Mr. Chao).
Eve of Grandeur (Mr. Davis).
Lovely View (Mr. Pih).
Oolong (Mr. Needa).
Rosylight (Mr. Moller).
Velvetlight (Mr. Noodt).
Iron Beauty (Mr. Wei).

I do not think we need look further than Charlesber, Oolong, Velvetlight and Iron Beauty for the eventual winner. Charlesber has been properly tuned up for this meeting, having had the benefit of a year's training, and I feel it will have to be seriously considered for the Derby.

Oolong has been talked about as a pony likely to win the Blue Riband; I like the way it moves, while Velvetlight has been improving since its last gallop with

its stablemate on January 22, over the Derby distance in 3.35 with a last quarter of 30.1. However, there was something in its finish which did not appeal to me.

Iron Beauty has not had a decent gallop so far, but judging from the way it moved it appears to have talent which has not yet been properly developed.

RACE NO. 11: BENDIGO HANDICAP: FROM THE TWO MILE POST ONCE ROUND AND IN

This race is confined to "B" Class, Australian Subscription griffins and judging from the entries, I think the finish will be fought out between the following ponies:—

Criffel (Mr. Black).
Fair Chance (Mr. Wei).
Rowan (Mr. Hearne).
Springhurst (Mr. Poy).

Vixen Tor (Mr. Noodt).
Criffel, which won the Dilatory Handicap at the 13th Extra Meeting over the mile, is the best recommendation for a win here. I expect it to receive stiff opposition from Vixen Tor, which it beat by a short head in the race referred to above. Vixen Tor is in fine condition at the moment.

Fair Chance, with a change of jockey in Mr. Wei, should be borne in mind, and Rowan and Springhurst have shown improvement and should not be disregarded.

RACE NO. 12: AUSTRALIAN VALLEY STAKES: ONE MILE

The last race of the day will be contested by Australian Subscription ponies of 1941. I need only refer to ponies that have done well in morning training, and I believe that the winner will come from one of the following, omitting probable starters in previous races:—

A Surprising Time (Mr. Hobden).
Buckfastleigh (Mr. Woo).
Endeavour (Mr. Wei).
King's Flight (Mr. Needa).
Bendigo (Mr. Chao).
Seal River (Mr. Black).

Endeavour is easily the best of this bunch, and I have no doubt that it will win.

A Surprising Time has done well in training, when it was clocked over the Champions distance in 2.28.1 and, judging from that performance, it should take second place, leaving King's Flight and Seal River to fight out the third place.

For an outsider I recommend Buckfastleigh, which has always impressed me with its fine movement.

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P. S. Bun and M. S. Lim (University "A")	6	1	5
M. P. Young and Y. P. Young (University "B")	6	1	5
C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y")	9	4	5
C. Au and F. Koh (Chinese "Y")	6	2	4
J. J. Remedios and H. F. Goncalves (Recreio)	4	5	4
C. K. Lee and S. L. Yung (University "B")	3	0	3
T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung (University "B")	6	3	3
M. A. Oliveira and A. M. Rodrigues (Recreio)	9	6	3
F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y")	12	9	3
P. H. Hon and H. F. Chiu (University "A")	1	1	2
C. K. Cheuk and K. B. Lin (University "B")	3	1	2
S. Amplavanar and A. P. Lee (University "B")	3	1	2
M. P. Young and Y. P. Young (University "A")	3	1	2
P. H. Wong and P. C. Lau (Chinese "Y")	6	4	2
A. A. Carvalho and A. M. Silva (Recreio)	9	7	2

"B" Division

	P	L	W
A. L. Fisher and P. Wynter-Blyth (K.C.C.)	18	2	16
E. P. Finch and H. Kew (St. Andrew's)	15	2	13
N. L. Smith and P. Wilson (St. John's)	12	0	12
S. P. Chan and K. J. Attwell (King's)	12	0	12
C. F. Chiu and S. C. Liang (Chung Wah)	12	2	10
H. Eardley and D. Kwok (St. John's)	9	0	9
W. Gillies and L. Gordon (Police)	18	9	9
W. H. Choy and W. C. Choy (Chung Wah)	9	1	8
P. C. Leung and K. F. Chiu (Chung Wah)	12	4	8
Peter Lo and J. Tsang (Kowloon Tong)	15	7	8
K. L. Lui and W. C. Chung (King's)	9	2	7
D. M. Xavier and S. A. Rum-Jahn (V.R.C.)	12	5	7
T. Lam and K. H. Lo (King's)	15	8	7
J. L. Anderson and H. S. Jones (K.C.C.)	15	8	7
A. E. Brown and S. A. Gray (St. Andrew's)	9	3	6
P. A. Yvanovich and P. P. Botelho (Recreio)	6	1	5
M. M. Davies and B. Gillespie (St. Andrew's)	9	4	5
R. Maynard and G. S. Ladd (St. John's)	15	10	5
A. E. Xavier and A. E. Noronha (Recreio)	6	2	4
C. C. Pereira and E. A. R. Alves (Recreio)	6	2	4
J. Odell and M. Talan (J.R.C.)	6	2	4
C. F. Chiu and P. C. Leung (Chung Wah)	3	1	2
S. C. Liang and K. F. Chiu (Chung Wah)	3	0	3
S. P. Chan and W. C. Chung (King's)	3	0	3
C. F. Chiu and W. H. Choy (Chung Wah)	3	0	3
E. A. R. Alves and B. T. Gosano (Recreio)	3	0	3
E. Zimmern and D. Hazell (K.C.C.)	3	0	3
D. Hazell and A. E. P. Guest (K.C.C.)	6	3	3
D. Kwok and E. Kennard (St. John's)	6	3	3
H. T. Woo and K. L. Lui (King's)	6	3	3
A. E. P. Guest and E. Zimmern (K.C.C.)	6	3	3
J. L. Anderson and D. Hazell (K.C.C.)	3	1	2
H. S. Jones and A. E. P. Guest (K.C.C.)	3	1	2
F. H. Kwok and R. E. Lee (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
F. H. Kwok and J. Chan (Kowloon Tong)	6	3	3
R. E. Lee and K. M. Lee (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
S. C. Chan and Lee Po (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
F. S. Li and S. C. Liang (Chung Wah)	3	1	2
R. E. Lee and P. C. Fletcher (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
K. L. Lui and J. Pau (King's)	3	1	2
K. H. Lo and W. C. Chung (King's)	3	1	2
N. Whitley and N. L. Smith (St. John's)	3	1	2
W. H. Choy and S. F. Lee (Chung Wah)	6	3	3
S. T. Chan and S. C. Chan (Kowloon Tong)	6	4	2
A. Basto and M. M. de V. Soares (V.R.C.)	12	10	2

Tsang, Anderson And F.H. Kwok Play Very Well

By "Adrem"

CHINESE Y.M.C.A. suffered another crushing defeat on Monday, in "A" Division of the Badminton League, going down to University "B" by 3-6. This was the second time this season that "Y" had failed against the junior undergraduate team.

Chinese "Y" were at home and had out their strongest team but they were never in the picture, each pair being only able to win a game apiece.

University proved very well-balanced and this was the main factor in their success. "Y" have won only one match to date, a 6-3 victory over Recreio and they now appear to be strong contenders for the wooden spoon. It will be recalled that last year, with practically the same team, they lost a play-off for the championship with University "A".

K.C.C. Save Their Bacon!

In one of the most exciting and gruelling matches seen in either section of the League this season, Kowloon Cricke! Club, fighting to the last ditch, snatched two points from lowly-placed Kowloon Tong on the last game of the evening which provided A. E. P. Guest and E. Zimmern, who were far from impressive in their first two games, with their only success of the evening.

Many of the games were long drawn-out affairs and in at least four of them, an opposite result would not have been altogether against the run of play.

One of the finest, from a technical point of view, was the eighth game of the evening, in which P. Wynter-Blyth and A. L. Fisher dropped their second game of the season. Their conquerors were Joseph Tsang and Peter Lo, whose form in their first two games had

suggested nothing that might indicate such a big upset. Tsang, however, gave a marvellous display and his smashing and quick exchange of court, combined with Lo's steadiness and ability to maintain a rally until Tsang had an opportunity of killing, gave the Kowloon Tong pair a brilliant win. There was never very much difference in the scores, the K.C.C. pair securing most of their points through concentrating on Lo and waiting for his loose returns to tuck away.

Fisher was very steady and placed very well, but Wynter-Blyth was rather erratic and later lost his smash.

K. Tong Setback

Kowloon Tong suffered a setback in the first game of the evening when Tsang and Lo went down to Anderson and Jones after a ding-dong struggle. Mackay and Lee were then annihilated by Fisher and Wynter-Blyth, but Kwok and Chan redeemed the situation somewhat when they scored a good win over Guest and Zimmern, Kwok playing a fine game and almost raising the standard of his partner to his own level.

In the second round Mackay and Lee, after securing a lead of 11-4, only just scraped home against Jones and Anderson after service had changed hands three

times without addition when the scores were set at 4-all; Kwok and Chan gave another fine display and forced Wynter-Blyth and Fisher all the way. At one stage near the end it appeared possible that Kwok's tenacity and fine placements would carry them through but the K.C.C. pair, who for some reason hitherto had not bothered to smash, rallied well and went out at 21-18.

Guest's Unavailing Effort

Evidently stiff and cold after waiting through four games, Lo and Tsang were very unimpressive against Guest and Zimmern but the last-named was playing so badly that despite the efforts of Guest, Kowloon Tong won the game to make the game score 3-4.

The last round was one of surprises. After their fine performance against Wynter-Blyth and Fisher, it was expected that Kwok and Chan would have a very good chance against Anderson and Jones, but Anderson was taking no chances and he completely dominated the court, smashing with fury and withal playing his drops with great delicacy. Kowloon Tong could produce no counter to the concentrated attack and K.C.C. were once again in the lead at 4-2.

Then came that epic game between Lo and Tsang, and Fisher and Wynter-Blyth which placed Kowloon Tong on level terms once again.

Rise To Occasion

Having regard to their poor performances, it was not expected that Guest and Zimmern would beat Lee and Mackay, especially as the latter pair, against Anderson and Jones, had shown such improvement. The K.C.C. players rose to the occasion in great style, however, and running away with a long lead, won easily to give K.C.C. a win, which at that stage, must be regarded as unexpected.

K.C.C. have not the balance of a championship team but they are great fighters. With all their players on form they are capable of beating the strongest combinations,

and if they do not win the title it will certainly not be for want of trying.

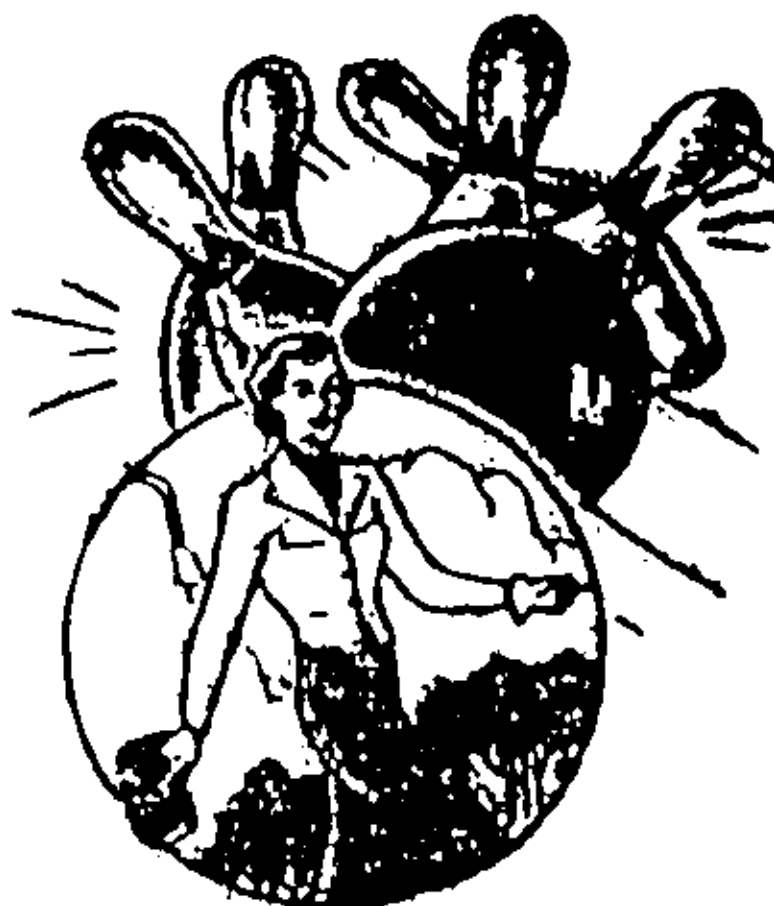
Other Matches

Other matches went as expected although Police, up against a disorganised St. John's team, did well to secure three games.

Although undergoing a long string of defeats, Police might do well to remember K.C.C., now at the top of the table with an unbeaten record, who went through much the same experience last year as Police are undergoing now.

Jackie Odell and M. Talan played very well against King's and can be well satisfied with winning two games, but the remainder of the Jewish R.C. team were outclassed and apart from a great fight by Godkin and Rumber against Chung and Lo, offered little resistance.

In a match on Tuesday, Chung Wah had little difficulty against V.R.C. and won for the loss of only one game.



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ARMY SPORTLIGHT

MIDDLESEX HOCKEY CHALLENGE TO ARMY

By "Squaddy"

AT SHAMSHUIPO ON Tuesday, Middlesex Regiment added another fine win to their unbeaten record in the Large Units Hockey League by defeating 5th A.A. Regt., R.A., to the tune of nine goals to nil, after being four goals in the lead at the interval.

The goals were scored by L/Cpl Bright (5), Pte Sheehan (2), Pte Hymas, and L/Cpl Moggan. The Gunners were in no way disgraced. The Middlesex, whose combination of players was absolutely outstanding, played brilliant hockey and it would have taken a very good team to have stood up to them in a fight.

L/Cpl Bright, at centre line, had a wonderful run, and whenever in position in front of goal, there was no stopping him. He well deserved the five goals which he scored.

Bds. Hymas also played a remarkable game, being the best player on the field; his fine ball control kept the Gunners' defenders well on the run.

Pte. Stuckley, who only a few days ago returned to the Middlesex side, played a hard game in defence and his hard and accurate hitting helped his forwards on many occasions.

Sgt. Crowley, who in past seasons has played for the Army, is still as good as ever and gave an excellent display at centre-half.

Pte. Sheehan proved a fine inside-left and worked well with Bright in the middle. He has a keen eye for the ball and is very safe with his stick.

On Sunday, at Shamshuiipo, the Middlesex will play the 2/14th Punjab Regt. in this League, buy-off 10.30 a.m.

It is not an overstatement to say of the Middlesex that they have one of, if not the strongest, European sides in the Colony, and, to prove their worth, I understand that they have challenged the Army (British Ranks) to a match in the near future, which should be an interesting game to watch.

At least three or four of their players should be in the Army side or given a trial.

"H.Q." Company of the Middlesex have a very strong team in the Small Units League and have reached the semi-final of this competition, where they will meet 22nd Coy., R.E.

In this competition they have not had a goal scored against them... and all their matches have been played away from home!

BOXING

WEDNESDAY evening at Shamshuiipo a very entertaining performance was given by the Middlesex Regiment and the Combined Royal Artillery in the semi-finals of the Command Novices Team boxing competition, the former winning 24 points to 16.

The Gunners were unfortunate in that four of their team failed to turn up, but they would have had to win all four of these fights to enter the final!

Best fight of the evening was between Pte. Macey of the Middlesex and Gnr. Agar. Both men fought hard throughout the three rounds and were congratulated at the end of the fight by the referee on their gallant performance.

The last fight of the evening was also a good one, Pte. Byford of Middlesex giving a fine exhibition of boxing. On this performance he should make a fine third welterweight string for the Middlesex opens.

Pte. Hogan, Middlesex, beat Gnr. Baker on a T.K.O. in the

Light Heavyweight—Pte. Cooper (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Pridmore (R.A.).

Heavyweight — L/C. Smith (Middlesex) beat L/Bdr. Dooley (R.A.).

Welterweight — Pte. Byford (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Campbell (R.A.).

SNOOKER

IN the Garrison Snooker League, Royal Army Medical Corps are leading by four points from the Royal Engineers. Sergeant.

At a meeting of the Garrison Snooker Committee held in the Soldiers' Club at the beginning of the week, a proposal was made by S/Sgt. Megson, R.E., that one League point should be allotted to each "frame" won only, the total aggregate to have no bearing on the final result, whatever, i.e., if both teams playing won three games each, they would be awarded three points each in the League table.

This proposal was agreed upon by all present, and will be incorporated in the relevant rule. Results and League positions to date:

R.A.P.C. beat Signals "A"	4-2
R.A.M.C. beat Signals Cpls	6-0
C.M. Police drew R.E. "A"	3-3
R.A.M.C. drew C.M. Police	3-3
R.A. Stanley drew R.E. Sergeants	3-3

R.E. "A" drew R.E. Sergeants	3-3
R.A. Stanley beat Signals "A"	4-2
R.A.P.C. lost to Signals Cpls	1-5
P. W. L. D. Pts.	
R.A.M.C.	3 2 0 1 15
R.E. Sergeants	3 1 0 2 11
R.A. Stanley	3 1 0 2 10
C.M. Police	3 0 0 0 9
R.E. "A"	3 0 0 3 9
Signals Cpls	3 1 1 1 8
R.A.P.C.	3 1 2 0 6
Signals "A"	3 0 3 0 4

On Sunday R.A.M.C. played Kowloon Police in a return snooker match and avenged their previous defeat by a comfortable margin. The match was played at the R.A.M.C. Mess.

R.A.M.C. 667 points
Kowloon Police 522 points

RUGBY FOOTBALL

AT Sookunpoo on Tuesday, Royal Scots were surprised by Combined Royal Artillery in the Large Units Rugby League and were beaten by 12 points to 8.

Royal Engineers had another win over the Combined Small Units.

The Large Units League Table to date is:

P. W. L. D. Pts.	
Royal Engineers	2 2 0 0 4
Royal Artillery	3 2 1 0 4
Royal Scots	2 1 1 0 2
Middlesex	2 1 1 0 2
C.S. Units	3 0 3 0 0

In a friendly match with the Hong Kong Club at Happy Valley

on Wednesday, Middlesex Regiment drew, each side scoring one try.

Sgt. Burrell scored the Middlesex try.

ASSOCIATION

FOOTBALL

ROYAL Army Service Corps are still winning in Second Division of the League, and at Sookunpoo on Wednesday they defeated the strong Engineers' eleven by three goals to one.

This places them in a very good position, with the Sappers now only one point in the lead, but one game in hand.

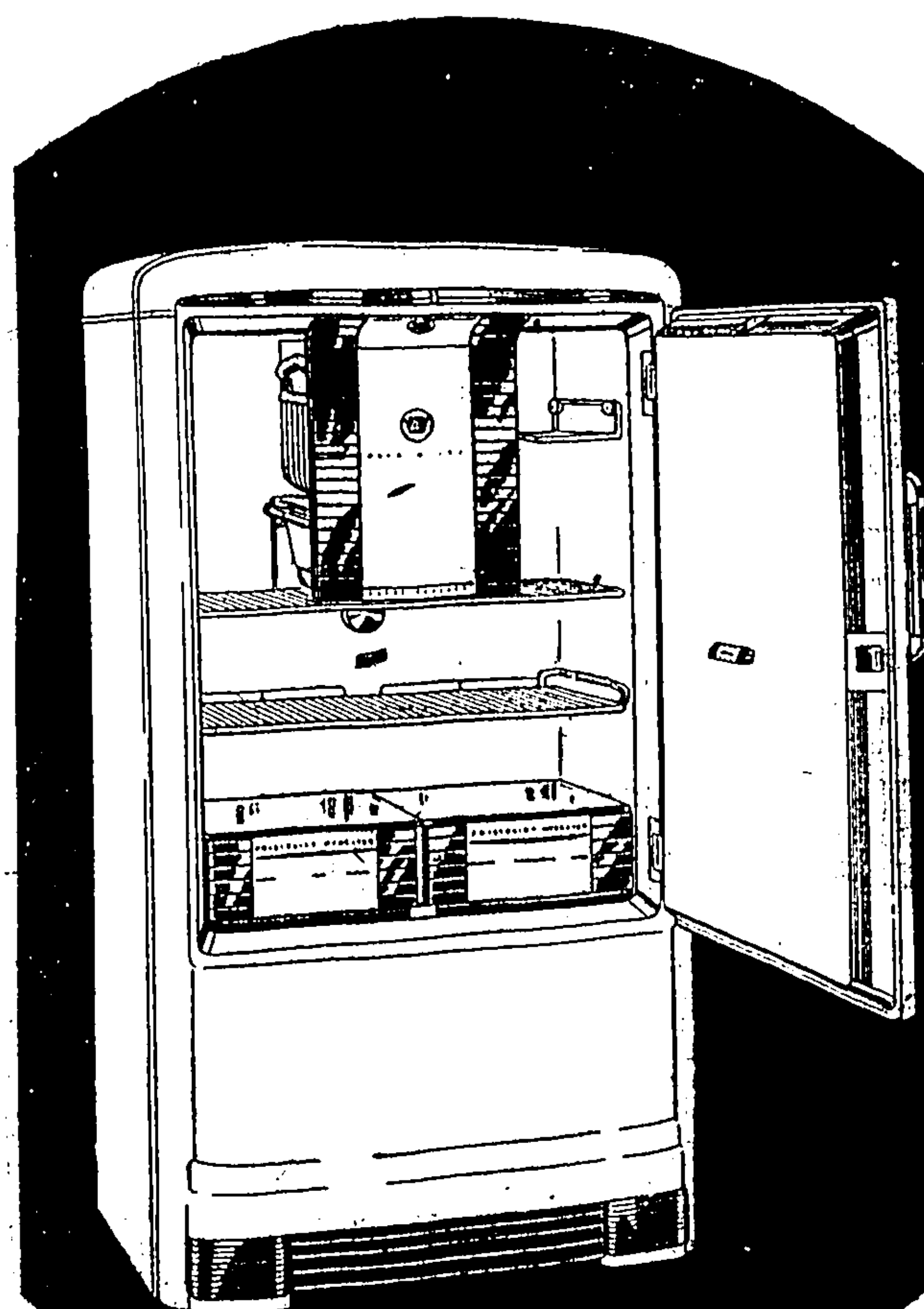
This is the first defeat that the Engineers have suffered this season in League football, and the second in all football this year.

They were knocked out of the Junior Shield by 36th R.A. in the last round.

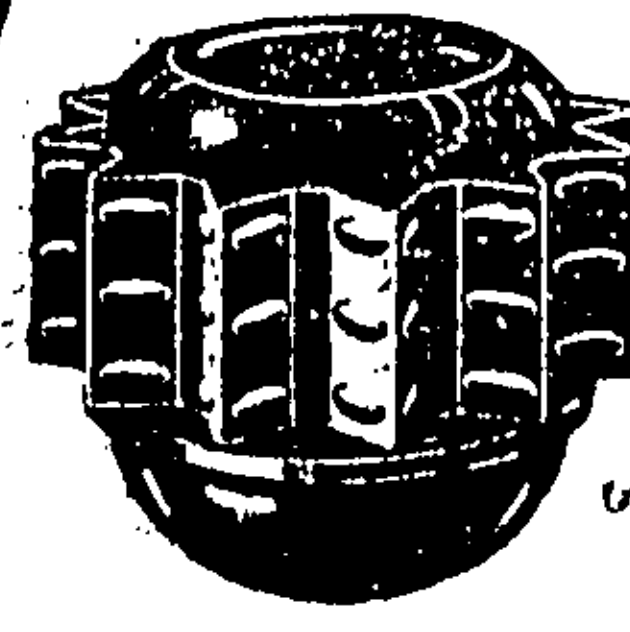
Service Corps now only need another six goals to equal the goal-scoring record of 96 goals. Their goal average is now 90 goals for and 29 against, and they still have another six games to play. On current form they should easily secure the necessary seven goals.

CROSS COUNTRY

ON Monday, February 24, Middlesex Regt. will compete against Combined Small Units in a cross-country run, which will start and finish at the European YMCA Kowloon. The course will be between five and six miles, and this run is to enable both units to select their final team for the annual cross-country run which takes place on March 4.



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PETAIN-FRANCO-IL DUCE

Little Indication Of Real Purpose Of Talks

Spanish Move To Join Axis Not Expected

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE MEETING BETWEEN GENERAL FRANCO AND MARSHAL PETAIN WAS REPORTED TO BE CONCERNED WITH EUROPEAN PROBLEMS AND IT IS INDICATED THAT FRANCO GAVE MARSHAL PETAIN A RESUME OF HIS TALKS WITH MUSSOLINI.

Rome radio says that the talks concerned the "new order" in Europe.

The Mussolini/Franco talk took place at Bordighera and the discussion covered a wide-range of topics relating to European and African developments.

Officials in London, according to the B.B.C., consider it extremely unlikely that General Franco is about to join the Axis. — International News Service.

Italian Statement

The Mediterranean and Africa were the main questions discussed at the meeting at Bordighera between General Franco and

compulsion. Mr. Norton said: "We know the plight of millions of refugees in other countries who had no time to prepare for evacuation, and we have that lesson before us." — Reuter.

Mussolini according to the official Italian news agency yesterday quoting "authorised quarters in Rome."

Repeating the words of the official communiqué the agency adds: "There was certainly a question of problems arising from the conflict with which are connected the reorganisation of Europe and of questions concerning the Mediterranean and Africa."

"On these two points perfect identity of views was noted. "Spain's attitude of solidarity with the Axis is being continued."

"Political Comrades"

The same "authorised quarters" are stated to have commented on the meeting thus: "This meeting between two statesmen linked by close political comradeship is inclined to have that importance which is characterised by the military and political circumstances of the moment."

"It is significant that General Franco met the Duce for the first time in Italy, thus giving the lie to certain allegations of enemy propaganda."

"The Bordighera meeting was above all devoted to an examination of questions which interest the two countries." — Reuter.

The Petain-Franco Meeting

Marshal Petain received General Franco and Senor Serrano Suner, the Spanish Foreign Minister, immediately after the Spanish leaders had arrived at Montpellier at 1.55 yesterday afternoon.

After lunching together Marshal Petain and General Franco had a conversation lasting three hours.

General Franco was accompanied, in addition to Senor Suner, by a suite composed both of civilian and military officials.

While General Franco and Marshal Petain were together a large crowd gathered outside the building and cheered loudly.

Both Smiling

Responding to demands the two leaders appeared on the balcony and were greeted with shouts of "Vive Franco" and "Vive Petain". Both were smiling.

Before General Franco entered his car the band played both the Spanish anthem and the Marseillaise.

During the afternoon Senor Suner had a conversation with Admiral Darlan, the French Foreign Minister and Vice-Premier. — Reuter.

CANADIAN DEFENCE PROJECT

A system of aerodromes through Alberta and British Columbia leading to Alaska is being established by the Canadian Government as a defence measure at a cost of about £2,000,000, it was announced in Ottawa yesterday by Mr. C. G. Power, Minister of Defence and Air Minister. — Reuter.

STOP PRESS

Bulgarian demands on Greece are reported in a message from Budapest received in New York last night.

The message quotes the Bulgarian Government radio as demanding the immediate cessation of a corridor through Greece to the Aegean Sea.

THE BULGARIAN RADIO SPOKESMAN ARGUED THAT THE TERRITORY BETWEEN THE BAYS OF SALONIKA AND PHAROS, FORMERLY BULGARIAN, STILL CONTAINS BULGARS AND THAT "THE PROBLEM HAS NOW BECOME ACUTE." REUTER.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

It was learned in Vichy last night that General Franco has refused to grant Spanish assistance for an attack against Gibraltar, despite very strong pressure from Mussolini.

It is reported that Mussolini promised every Italian favour to Spain and besought General Franco to pay off now by providing bases and aid for an Axis attack.

In spite of strong pressure General Franco is said to have refused, explaining that Spain cannot risk war with England, which is aiding Spain with food. — International News Service.

SERIOUS VIEW TAKEN ON FAR EAST OUTLOOK

(Continued from Page 1) against any rash action by Japan in the southern Pacific at the instance of Germany.

Observers in Tokyo remarked that the warning of the gravity of the situation by the Australian War Council was issued at about the same time as Sir John Latham, the Australian Minister in Tokyo, was calling at the Japanese Foreign Office. — International News Agency.

The prefix "special" to telegrams is used by the "Sunday Herald" and "China Mail" to indicate news which is strictly copyright under the provisions of the Telecommunications Ordinance, 1936, and may not be reprinted under any circumstances, either wholly or in part, without prior arrangement.

YUGOSLAV PREMIER OFF TO BERLIN

It was reported in London last night that the Yugoslav Premier and Foreign Minister left Belgrade yesterday for Berlin at the invitation of the German Government, says a Reuter despatch.

DUBLIN GETTING PREPARED

The importance of perfecting evacuation plans "while time is still available," was stressed by Mr. William Norton, Leader of the Labour Party in the Dail, broadcasting from Dublin last night.

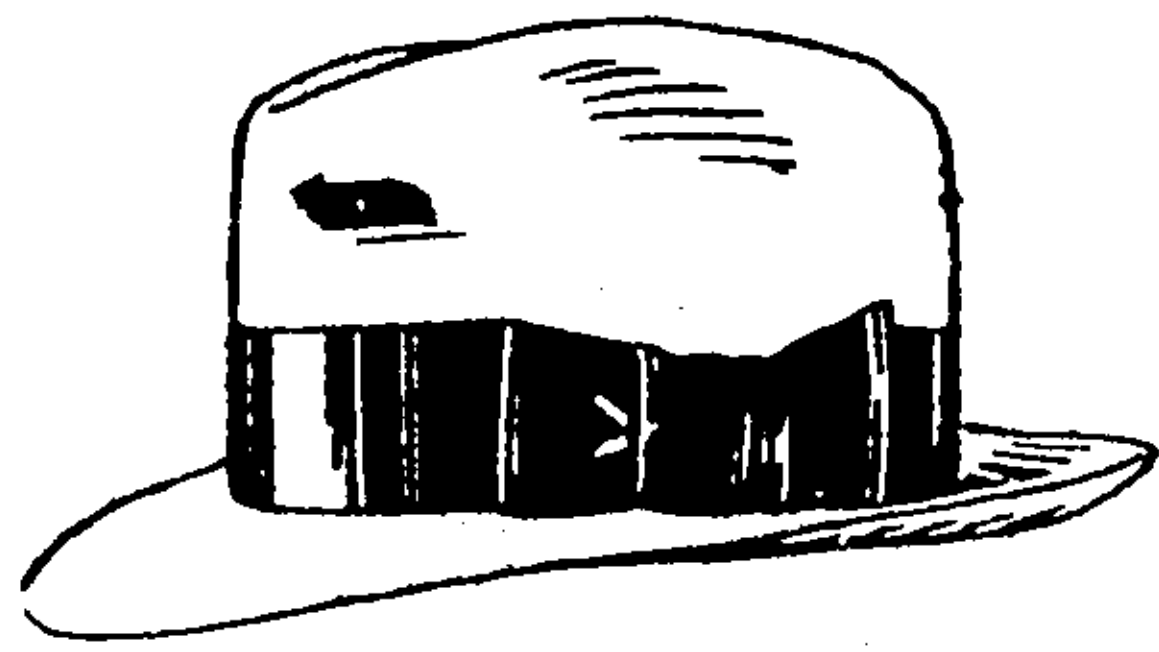
Mr. de Valera recently announced that if the voluntary evacuation scheme proved unsatisfactory the Government would resort to



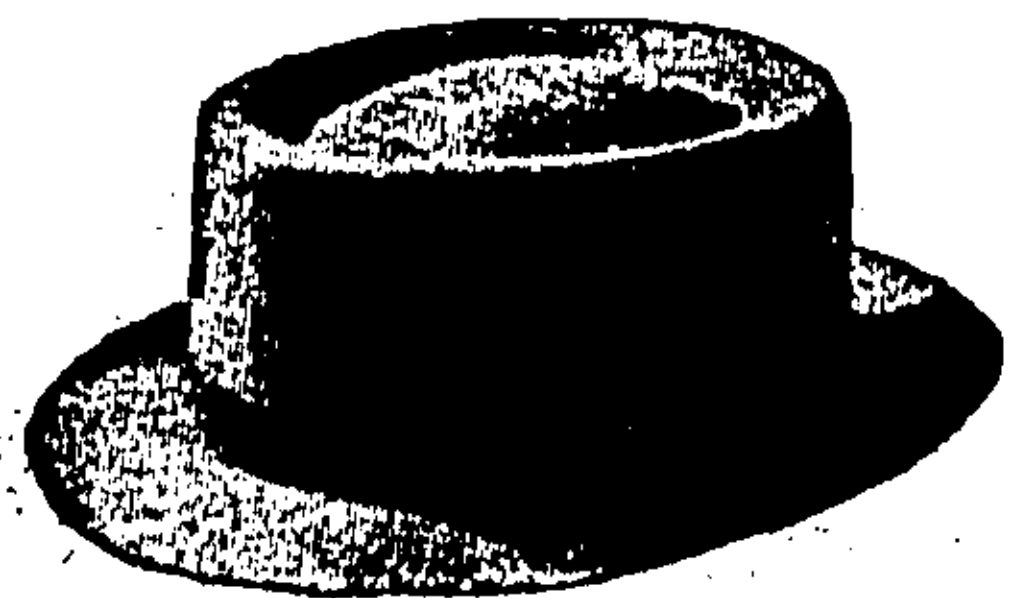
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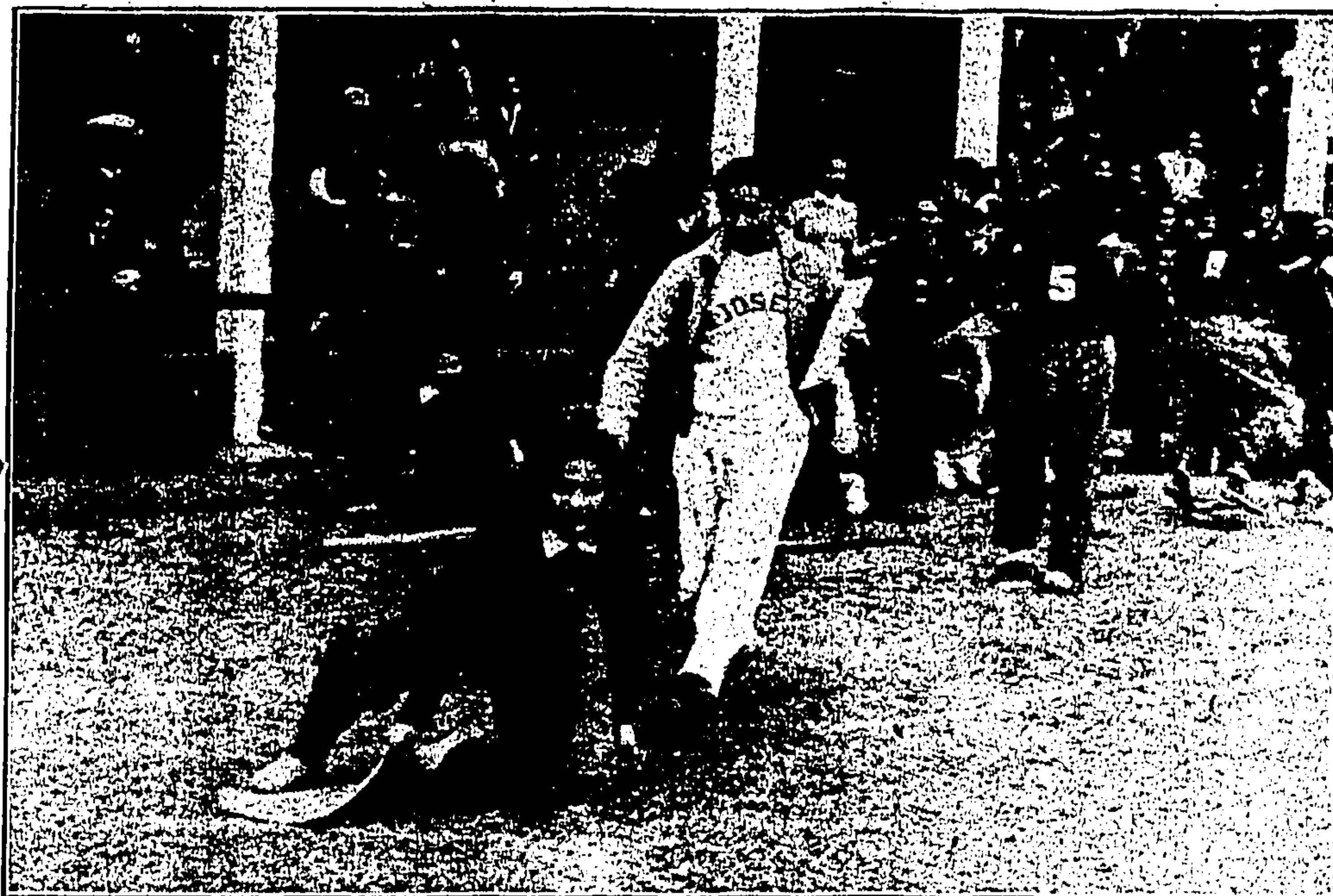
THE CHINA MAIL

FRIDAY SUPPLEMENT, HONG KONG, FEBRUARY 14, 1941.

Softball Needle Match



A heated debate on a point of law in the softball "needle" match between the Wahoos and the Canuckettes on Sunday. The Canadians won 8-6, but there was much criticism of umpire decisions.



Miss J. Anderson (Wahoos) sends her team into raptures by smashing out a home run. Here Miss Anderson is seen at the home plate, and her team-mates jumping with enthusiasm. Miss Anderson after injured an arm and will be out of the game for some weeks.



The large crowd which watched Sunday's softball encounters at the Kowloon Football Club ground.



(Left) — The King and Queen recently visited the North-east coast and viewed the defences, air-raid damage, and an aircraft factory. During their visit they also met Mrs. Cardwell the woman who captured a German airman single handed and presented her with the Medal of the Order of the British Empire. Photo shows the Queen talking to people who lived in the damaged house. (Copyright, Fox).

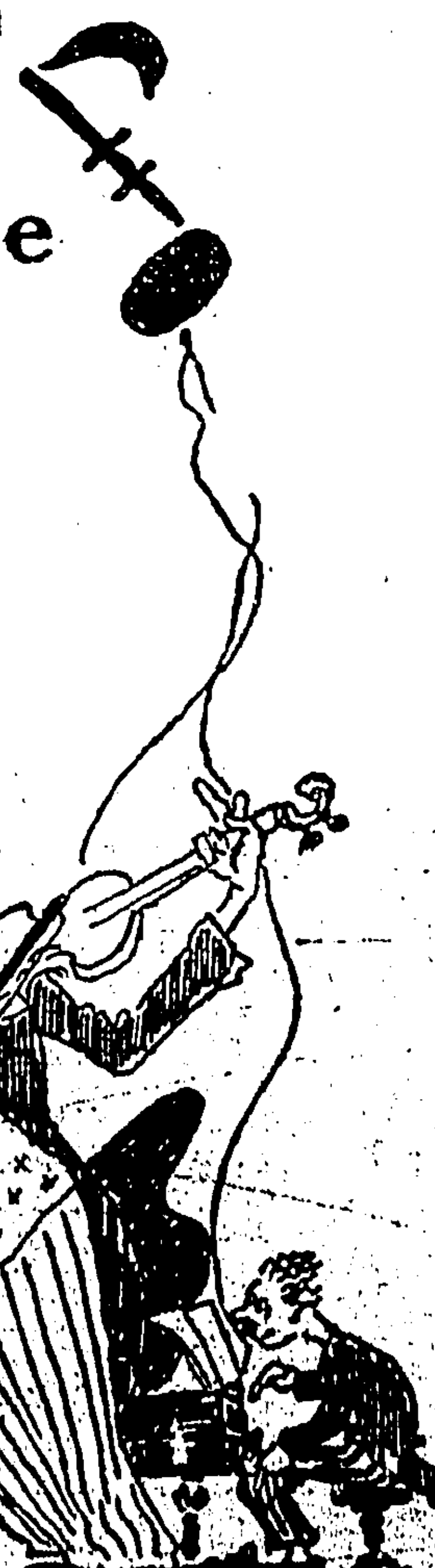


The team sent from Macao to play Eastern on Tuesday. The Hong Kong team was too powerful for the visitors and won 3-1.



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THE RAT By Leonard R. Gribble

SWINGING a pick in a Dartmoor quarry, grey-clad Convict 09156 counted the months ahead. Tramping the cobbled confines of the prison yard under a lowering sky he counted the weeks. Standing braced against the scarred wall of his cell he counted the days.

Months . . . weeks . . . days. The dead-march of Time caught up with him at last.

He stood before the Governor and was told officially that he was a man again. The well-meant advice, the carefully chosen words, elicited no response from him, brought no answering gleam to the opaque glaze of his eyes. Something had died in Convict 09156, it did not quicken when Bert Tallent walked from the prison gates, free after nearly three years, the sound of numberless feet shuffling in concert no longer in his ears.

"Hey, there, Bert!" He saw his brother Jack seated behind the wheel of an old car.

"Hello, Jack!" He spoke in a whisper, out of the side of his mouth, without realising it. As the car moved off he added, "How're things?" in the same soft tone.

"Oh all right I wrote you . . . " "Yeah, I know. Everything in Hoxton's fine. You're still at the garage getting four quid a week, the old man's still on his feet. I knew. But Connie . . . what about her?"

Lad drew down over the opaque eyes, the brown hand fists knotted. Jack Tallent threw a side-glance at his brother and tried to keep his voice casual.

"Connie? She's fine. Got a job with Bob Sudds, the bookie. Office work. Not bad pay. Connie's all right."

"Yeah, Connie's all right." It

was the low-uttered prayer of a man who had believed, and whose belief had been truly founded.

Jack Tallent stared straight ahead.

"What you going to do now, Bert?"

"Stop with the old man for a few days, then come back to the lodgings."

"I know. Of course. That's right." The car swerved without apparent reason. "But what you going to do?"

Bert Tallent smiled. His teeth were strong, white, rooted in healthy bone. "First thing I'm doing," he said slowly, "is getting even with a rat."

The man and the girl sat at a secluded table in the frowsy restaurant. Across the near-white table-cover their glances met and clashed. Round grey eyes lighting a face somewhat too plump to be termed an oval, crowned with brassy tortured ringlets, challenged the black-brown, deepest eyes assessing her with rodent scrutiny.

"You and me, that was a mistake, Sam. I found it out. It was nothing." She caught her breath as she raised a cigarette to her carmined lips. "But Bert's out, been out about a week and hasn't come near me. You've got to tell him the truth. You've got to," she repeated, natural colour deepening the shade of her cheeks.

A lean, not particularly clean hand smoothed the man's face, quivered hair. The thin nose dominating his buck teeth wrinkled as he grinned.

"Listen, Connie," he said, "don't get me wrong. I got nothing against Bert."

"No?" she said. "Well, there's been plenty of talk about you shopping him. He wasn't in on that Camden Town job, and some-

body spoke out of turn to the cops. Bert was 'framed.'"

The man shrugged his shoulders, hunching them about his ears.

"He was shipped, but that don't mean I knew anything about it, Connie." His speculative eyes took in the girl's features, her figure, her clothes. "Now look, Bert's going back to his brother's lodgings to-night--"

"How do you know that?" she flashed.

His grin became a leer, cunning, deceptive.

"Never mind, I know. I make it my business to know things. Plenty of things. It's useful in all sorts of ways."

"Yes, the cops pay their harks."

A hand like a paw gripped her wrist. "Drop that stuff, d'you hear?" he growled, throwing a furtive glance over a padded shoulder. The hand drew back. "Listen, you want to square things with Bert. All right, go to him to-night, before he gets to hearings things, see? Put him right."

The rodent eyes shone with meaning. The girl dropped the butt of her cigarette in the dregs of her coffee-cup.

"Right for you, you mean, Sam Apps?"

She was understanding this man as she had never understood him before. Something like shame scared her mind. What in God's name had she ever seen in him, with his oily head, yellow teeth, and wasp-waisted clothes? She asked herself, and mentally shuddered.

"Right for us, Connie." His head jutted forward, his lips moist, bulging. "Bert will listen to you. He wouldn't raise his hand to a

woman."

"You can explain. Everything," he added after a pause.

"Then you won't--"

He shook his head.

"I know Bert Tallent. He'll be putty in your hands, Connie. He's only been out a few days, playing good boy while the coppers watch him. For two years and seven months he hasn't seen a woman-- hasn't held a woman. See? You do as I say, and everything will be all right."

Loathing crept into her face. She knew now what he wanted her to do, throw herself back at Bert in order to save himself. He was afraid. Like a rat in a corner faced by a terrier. But there was something more than fear in his eyes, something she couldn't fathom, something that made her afraid for herself, for Bert. Her mind rocked in turmoil, trying to clarify fused thought. She would have got up, but he pushed her back into her seat.

"Wait, Connie," he said, showing his teeth again. "I'm a pal. I like you. I want to see you fixed right." He took a black seal wallet from his pocket, drew out a crisp white piece of paper. "Here. Your savings. Don't forget that touch. And he'll want money. Jobs won't be easy for a bit. You want to help him, don't you? You don't want him going about without money in his pocket. He'll want clothes, cigarettes, to take you to the pictures. You know. Well, be sensible. Make an impression. Show him you've got a head on your shoulders."

The piece of white paper was a £20 note.

"But . . ."

"But nothing." He pressed the note into her hand. "Don't be a fool, and I'm your friend. Go there, see him before his brother comes home from the garage. Get him alone. Make him take that money at once. That'll stop him thinking what you don't want him to think. You're smart. You're no fool, Connie. Do as I say, and everything will be all right—for both of us."

He made that last part sound a concession to her. She couldn't think. Not with his eyes glittering at her, little round shiny specks, like old-fashioned boot-buttons. He pushed back his chair rose.

"Come on, Connie. Just do as I say. I know how it'll work out."

Suddenly her mind cleared, and she saw things distinctly.

"Yes, sure. I know, Sam."

"That's the talk. That's the girl." He laughed, brittle sound without a true note. "Come on." They left the frowsy restaurant together.

Bert Tallent opened the door and a hungry look swept into his face as he saw the girl on the landing.

"Why, Bert, you look fine!"

"I'm all right, Connie."

She came into the room, and he closed the door. As she passed him he caught the fragrance of the perfume she had used. His fists knotted at his sides. Her left hand was bare. Bleakness came to his eyes, robbing them of sight for a moment.

"Where's the ring, Connie?" His voice shook.

"I had to hock it, Bert—honest. You see, you inside. It wasn't easy. People said things. And I had to live."

"Yes, you had to live," he repeated, thinking of the dun moors, the quarries, a chink of night sky patterned by iron bars.

"Then Bob Sudds gave me a job, keeping account. I saved, Bert. Look." She took the £20 note from the bag. "It's our start for a new life, Bert. Take it. You can pay me back, later, when you've got something."

He stared at the money in his hands.

"How did you know I would be back here to-night?" he asked levelly.

"Why, a friend of Jack's phoned through a bet this afternoon. He told me. Jack told him. Please, Bert, put the money away."

"Look here, I ain't--"

"Bert!" she pleaded. "Don't make it hard for me—after all this time." She pushed his hand, holding the note into his pocket, and raised her red lips invitingly.

There was a glow deep in her eyes. He crushed her to him, like a thirsty man seizing a pitcher of water. New fire flowed in his veins, burning out caution, suspicion, doubt, all save knowledge that she was here, in his arms.

A knock on the door parted them. He opened it. Two men pushed their way inside. There was no need to ask who they were and their business. They were detectives.

"Bert Tallent?" said the taller.

"All right, take it easy. We want to have a look round." He grinned like a cat scenting fresh cream. "May as well start with you yourself."

He grabbed one of Bert's shoulders, pushed a hand into one of his pockets.

"Look here, what the hell--"

"I said take it easy. Couple of nights ago the Harrow Road post office was cleaned out. Well, we ain't had any luck—Hallo!" he broke off, producing the £20 note, and holding it up. His grin widened. "Bull's-eye! You just outside, Tallent, and in your pocket a twenty-quid note. Strange, you know. That post office lost fourteen twenties."

Before he could stop him Bert had whirled away. He caught one of Connie's arms.

"So," he ground out. "It's true—those rumours about you and Sam Apps. He's got you, and got you to fix me again. By God--"

His hand slashed across her face and she fell back. The next moment he was spun round as the second detective jumped him.

In the centre of the room the first detective was staring from the serial number of the note to a list he had produced.

"Hey," he said, "something's wrong! This ain't one of the stolen notes." He turned a frustrated look at his assistant. "That tip we got was--"

Too late, he stopped.

"Come on," he grunted. He went out, followed by the other. The door closed behind them.

Slowly Bert turned an amazed look on the girl. There was a smear of blood on her cheek, but she looked happy. A new radiance illumined her face.

"I knew it was a frame up," she whispered. "The dirty rat." Bert watched her, unable to speak, as she poured forth her story. "And that's what he tried to get me to do, Bert. But I knew why. He was afraid of you. He knew you would get him. Well, I wasn't having you go inside again for him."

Bert shook his head. Somehow he felt very much like a small boy who has produced the wrong answer for a very simple sum.

"You mean, Connie, all this—this—"

She laughed joyously. "I've paid for being a fool, Bert, but the last payment's made. I got the account settled for us, not for me or for you. And he—Sam Apps—gave me the idea."

Her laughter rose like a flight of birds.

His manhood marvelled and paid homage. His throat was dry, yet his heart pounded with singing labour. He had struck her, he had lifted his hand against her! Like any man witnessing the enactment of a miracle, he lost the comfort of strength, his mind washed by the flood tide of understanding.

"You mean, Connie--"

She rushed on buoyant, a woman triumphant over self.

"I mean, Bert, I saw what his game was—in a flash. At first I didn't. I thought—Never mind what I thought. All of a sudden I knew. I went to Bob Sudds, and asked him to change the note. He wanted to know where I got it."

"You told him?" New fear threaded his voice; for her now.

"Of course. The governor's all right. But he's got his own ways of finding things out. He tumbled to that note. Probably knew the numbers of the stolen twenties. Anyway, he offered me fifteen quid for it. I took it, and he grinned. It was a deal both ways. He wants to get his own back on Sam Apps. The fool once twisted him on the phone. Placed a bet and didn't show the money. Bob Sudds don't forget things like that. And there's other ways Sam Apps has been unpleasant. He's always flush. He's on the inside when information is circulating, but the cops never touch him. That don't look so good. Well, Bob Sudds will nail him with that twenty-quid note. The cops will know this time all right. Oh, yes, Bert, there's one rat that will walk into a trap baited with his own bit of cheese."

She was near to hysteria. He saw that now. He stretched out his arms and drew her to him. His lips touched the streak of blood on her cheek. She trembled, and the wildness left her laughter.

"Bert!" she murmured as his lips found hers, claimed them. "God, I've been lonely for you!" Then suddenly she straightened. "Quick, before Solly's pawn-shop shuts."

"Why, what--"

"Don't stand like a goop, Bert. The ring—I want it back, now."

(Continued on Page 3)

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Seeds Of Wrath Sown In Nazi Germany

GERMANY, at the end of its greatest year of military triumph, stands a mighty Tantalus poised for a supreme effort to reach the fruits of victory which still dangle just beyond reach despite its successes on the battlefield.

Seldom in history have armies achieved such quick and sweeping successes. But also seldom before has the enjoyment of victory been so illusive as it has been for this modern Germany which, time and again, has seemed on the verge of realisation of its colossal dream but has still to taste the sweets of conquest.

Doubts of ultimate success, however, scarcely ripple the surface of German confidence, either among the military leaders or the submissive long-suffering civilian mass. For the Reich possesses history's most expertly forged army, unconquered, in fact even unchecked in nine months of amazing campaigning.

Victory Just Out Of Reach

But the year has always seen that ultimate victory snatched away at the last moment and left it still something tempting, something seemingly on the verge of attainment, but something still illusive.

Now with the opening of the new year that Army is moving again in another effort to reach by swift advance the rewards for which Germany and the German people have been sweated and rationed and moulded for eight long years.

They are not to be deprived of it easily. Their offensive power at least on land and in the air is greater than ever before. The weapons hurled into France in the spring have been sharpened by experience, plated by success, weighted by new recruits and six months of intensive industrial production of more arms.

Ready To Strike

The thrust of this Army wherever it goes will be terrific. Its size is such that it could, in theory, strike simultaneously in more than one direction. The maximum force unusable in an attempt against England is undoubtedly poised along Europe's western shores. Other even larger forces are apparently in motion in the direction of Britain's Mediterranean possessions. More are in a position to guarantee the security of Germany's pact of friendship with Russia. Any

number of military possibilities are open to the German High Command.

Out of these possibilities the German engineers of war have selected those which they consider best suited to the aim of breaking England's resistance and bringing the final victory which would give the Nazi Party unchallenged control of two continents and a world position unrivalled since the days of Rome.

Penalties For Failure

But if 1940 has brought the ancient German dream of conquest so near, fruition it has also witnessed the emergence of penalties which must be paid for failure.

Before the offensive started every other country in Europe had within itself elements strongly attracted by the concept of the new German order for Europe. Even after the Nazi armies entered those countries strong movements to accept the conquest and collaborate with Germany persisted. But with the passing of the months that receptiveness has been replaced by suspicion, fear, resistance, and hatred.

Seeds Of Wrath Sown

The men and the ideas who have followed in the wake of the conquering armies have caused a revulsion, have in fact sowed the seeds of wrath.

Never before has Germany had so few friends.

Hope for its ultimate defeat has swept from the areas under its control out through the world. If these armies ever falter and fall back, Germany will reap the whirlwind of its sowing.

The need to conquer increases as its armies expand their conquest. The knowledge of this drives them on farther afield, silences the moderates within their councils, strengthens the voices of those whose ambition know the widest horizons.

Need To Conquer Increases

And the need to conquer increases.

The year's swift victories have not seriously depleted Germany's war reserves. The spoils of war have made up much of the ex-

penditures in food and raw material. The German people are eating to-day almost as well as they did last winter, and their leaders have stated that if a time of serious shortage comes the German people will not be the first to suffer.

Yet there is enough change in conditions inside of Germany to hint of coming lacks if the war goes on indefinitely.

The rationing system is being constantly extended to cover more things. Household objects, both

By
JOSEPH
C. HARSCH

the kind needed in daily life and the sort of thing bought as a hedge against inflation, grow scarcer. Price control has not prevented an increase of nearly 100 per cent in clothing costs. Staple foods remain roughly at the same prices and quantities, but extras such as nuts, raisins, chocolates, and fruits are extremely scarce.

Rationing Problems

The equalisation of food availability, which is the ideal goal of rationing, is beginning to give way against new practices.

A black market exists. Coffee at about 30 marks a pound and tea at 40 or 50 marks a pound can be obtained if one knows where. In conversations about feeding the household the word "connections" is heard constantly. One develops "connections" for butter or cheese, or perhaps a goose. Invitations are often accepted with a readiness relative to the "connections" of the hostess.

No Real Shortage

Another common household phrase is "under the counter," which describes the practice whereby customers who are favoured, usually for good reason, are handed extra delicacies by their shopkeeper.

None of these things mean a real shortage as yet. People still look healthy in the streets. There

is no apparent undernourishment nor any reason to believe that it exists. But these little things merely serve to remind the thoughtful that in another two or three years it could be different. The downward graph of living standards is gradual and scarcely noticeable from one month to another. But it goes down over the year.

Morale has held up remarkably during the year and is actually better now than at this time last year.

At the end of 1939 there was nothing but the victory in Poland to convince the public that the German Army was superlatively powerful. The easy conquest of France wiped out the serious doubt which clouded the early war months. They have that record of victory to reassure them. And along with this moral factor is the growing fear of what would happen should they lose the war.

The fear of the consequences of hatred developing against them makes the great majority of Germans loyal to the cause of victory regardless of their feelings towards Nazism. So long as they foresee victory they can be expected to support the war effort. The only thing which would seriously undermine morale would be some development which would destroy the confidence in the possibility of victory.

Foundations of Morale

On the other hand, if the expectation of ultimate victory were seriously undermined a deep reaction is conceivable.

Morale is built on the combination of expected victory and fear of consequences of failure, not on basic faith in the righteousness of the cause.

There is a noticeable lack of enthusiasm, of any enduring crusading zeal.

The looming menace of America on the horizon is beginning to trouble them. It is another element driving military policy toward new and early efforts to reach the illusive victory quickly.

As yet the threat is only dimly appreciated by public opinion sheltered by the controlled press from full knowledge of the American trend. Further, the average German has been told that Amer-

ica will aid England only so long as England can pay. He is inclined to believe that America is completely mercenary.

American Aid

One of the severest blows which could be dealt his morale would be an American contribution to England divorced from profits. Should that happen he would begin to believe that America is really sincere in its devotion to the English cause, and that would probably shake him.

But all of these dangers seem remote to a German far behind the lines of his powerful and confident army. Everything that Army has attacked has been conquered or thrown back.

That he knows and feels and that keeps his confidence high despite the gradual encroachment of shortage on his standard of living. The beginning of 1941 finds the average German still believing that the victory he has spent eight years preparing for is still almost within reach.

The Rat

(Continued from Page 2)

to-night!"

His face registered only blankness.

"Don't you see?" she all but shouted. "Bob Suds only gave me fifteen quid for that stolen twenty. I pawned the ring—our ring—this evening, to get enough to make up the twenty. I had to go through with it, get those cops mad about being sent on a false trip. They'll know who tipped them off—Sam Apps. That won't do him any good when they find the right note on him. It'll look as though he's double-crossing 'em. Now don't you get it? Or do you want me to sing it to you?"

There was mischief in her face, devils of laughter in her eyes. Nothing mattered to her now. She had attained fulfilment. The emptiness of months meant nothing now. Life was brimming over, and she held the cup securely in both hands.

Grimacing, Bert reached for his cap. He forgot to whisper.

"Think Solly will change a twenty, Connie?"

She bridled, her rich mouth dimpling with fun.

"He'll change that one, Bert. I made him take down the number when he gave it to me. You see, I wasn't taking any chances."

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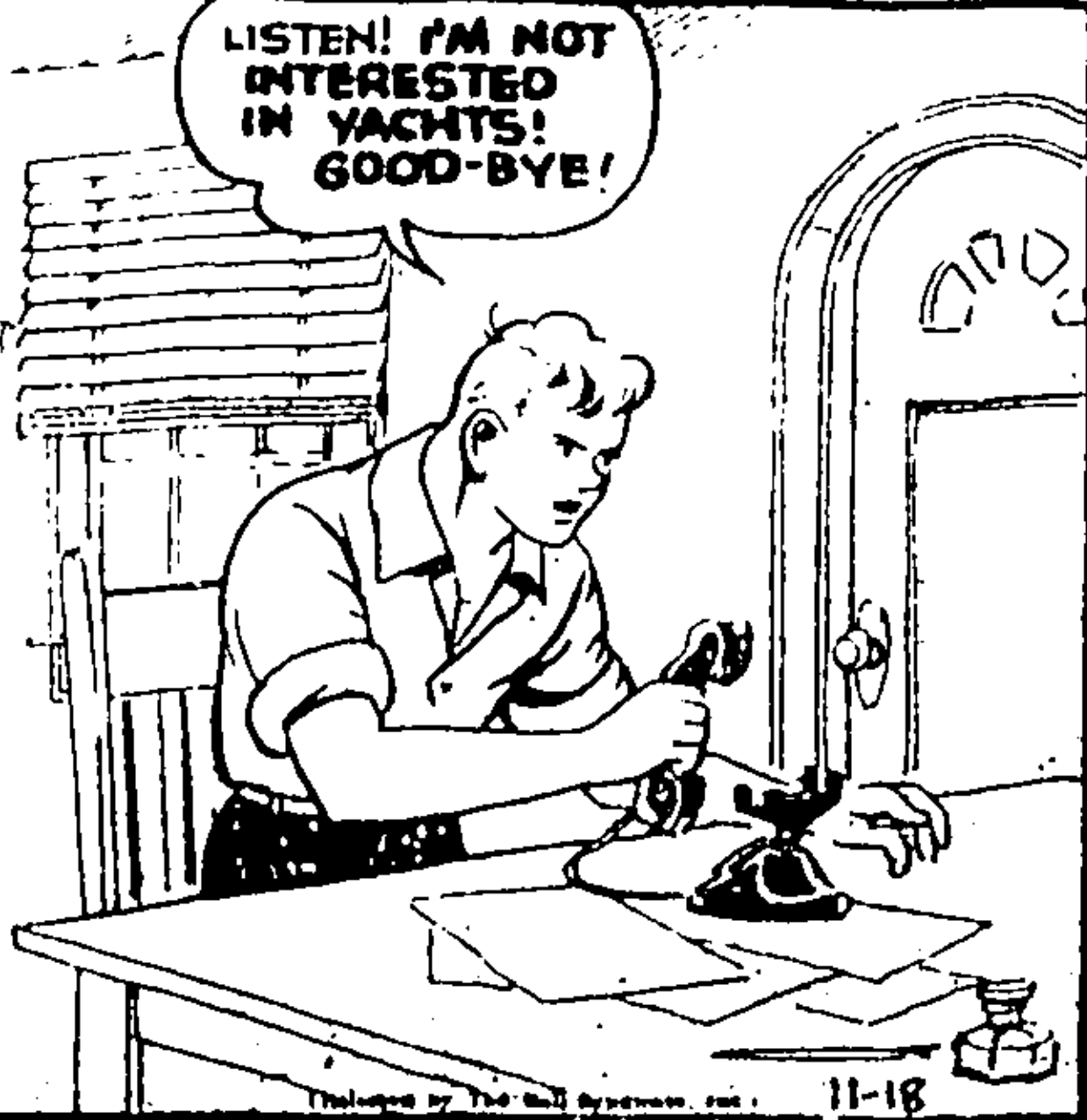
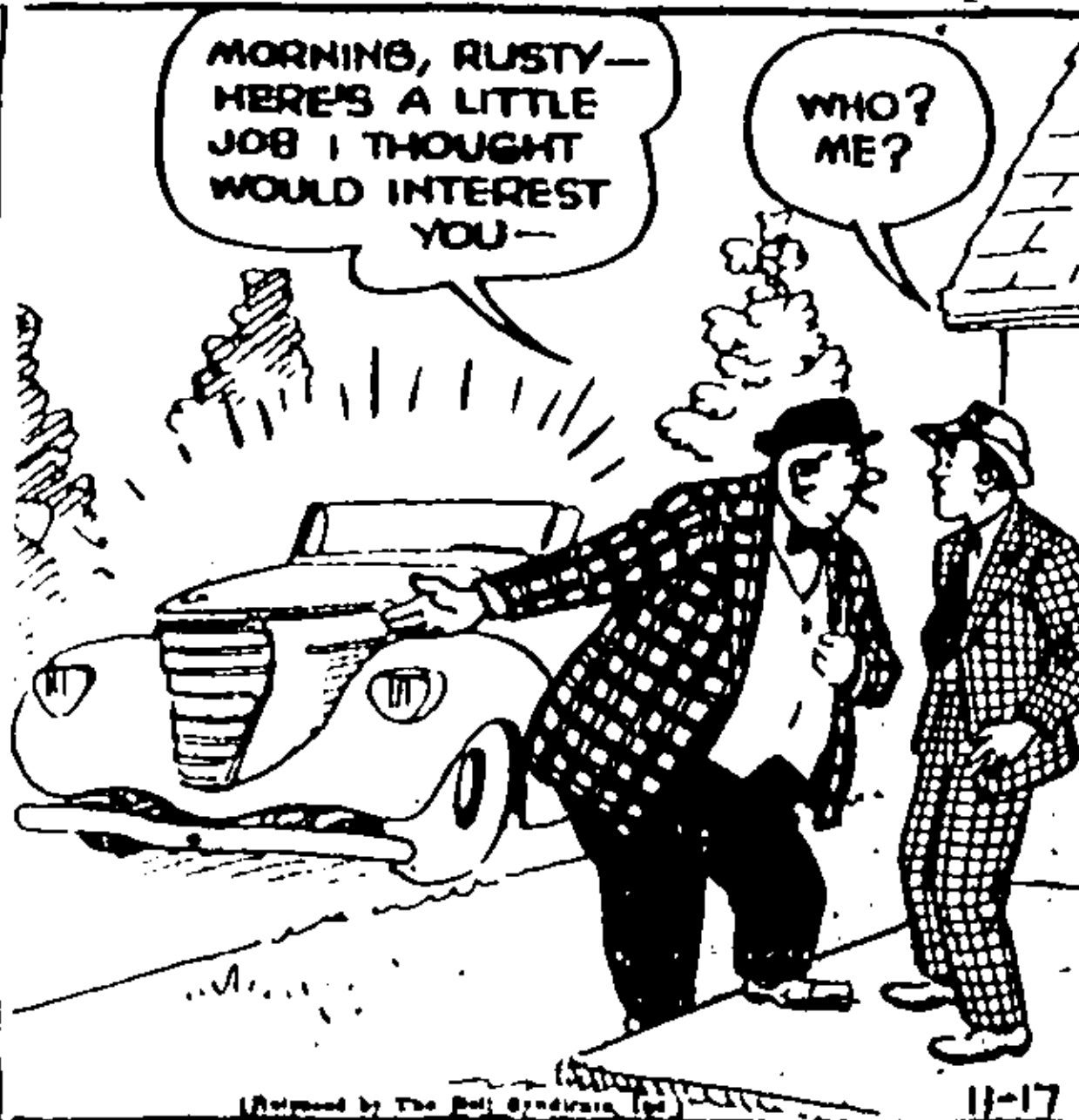
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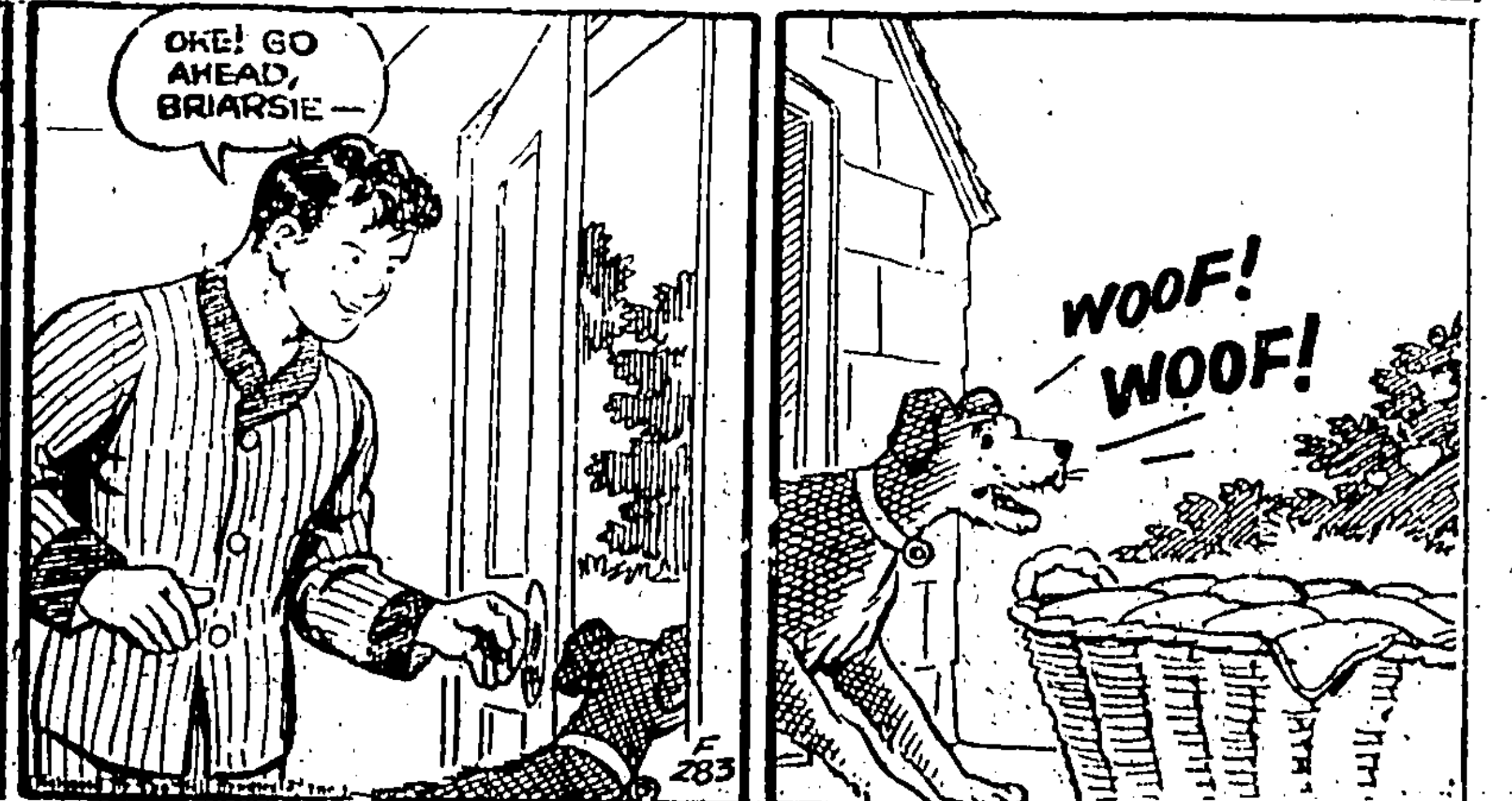
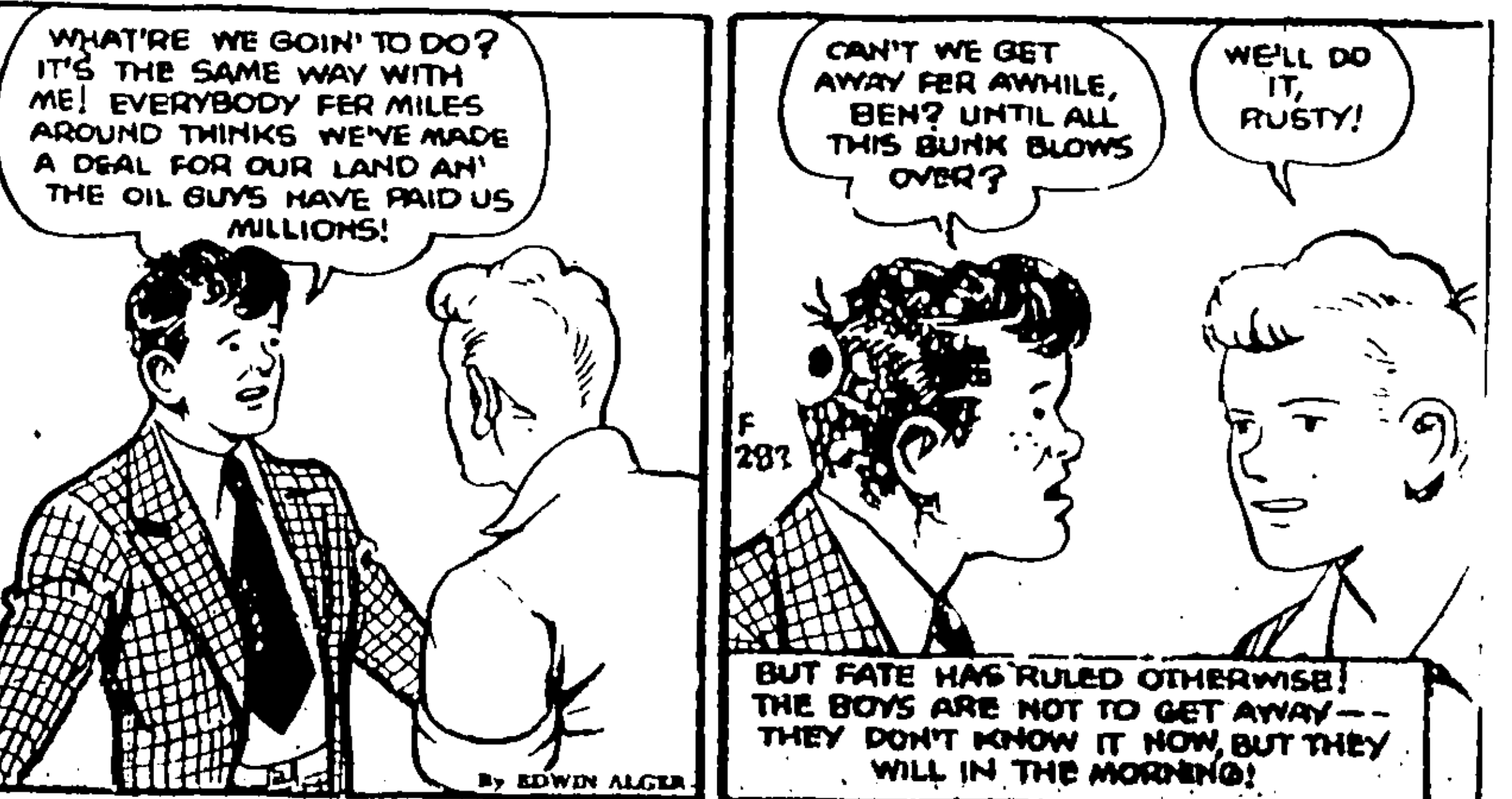
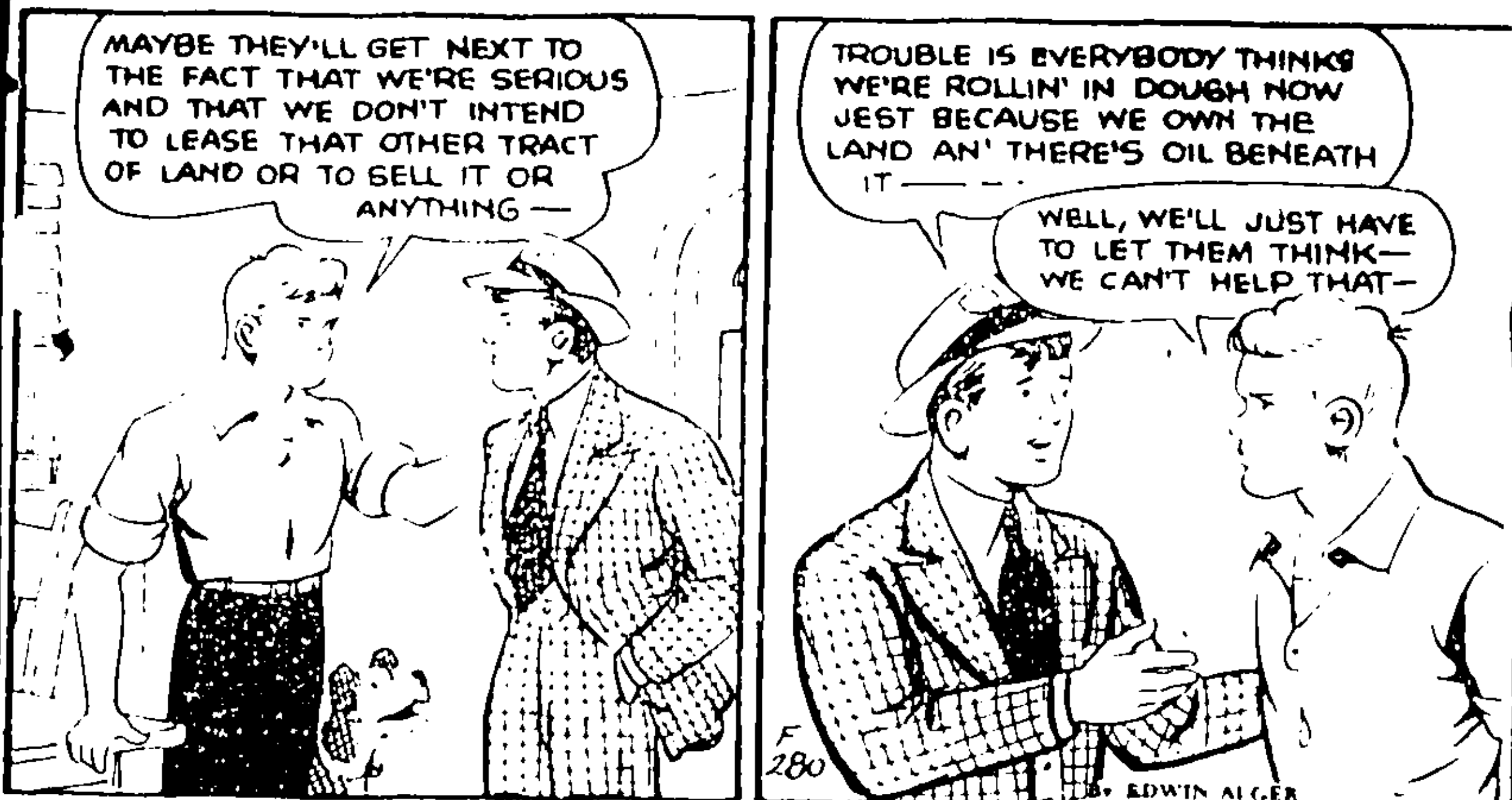
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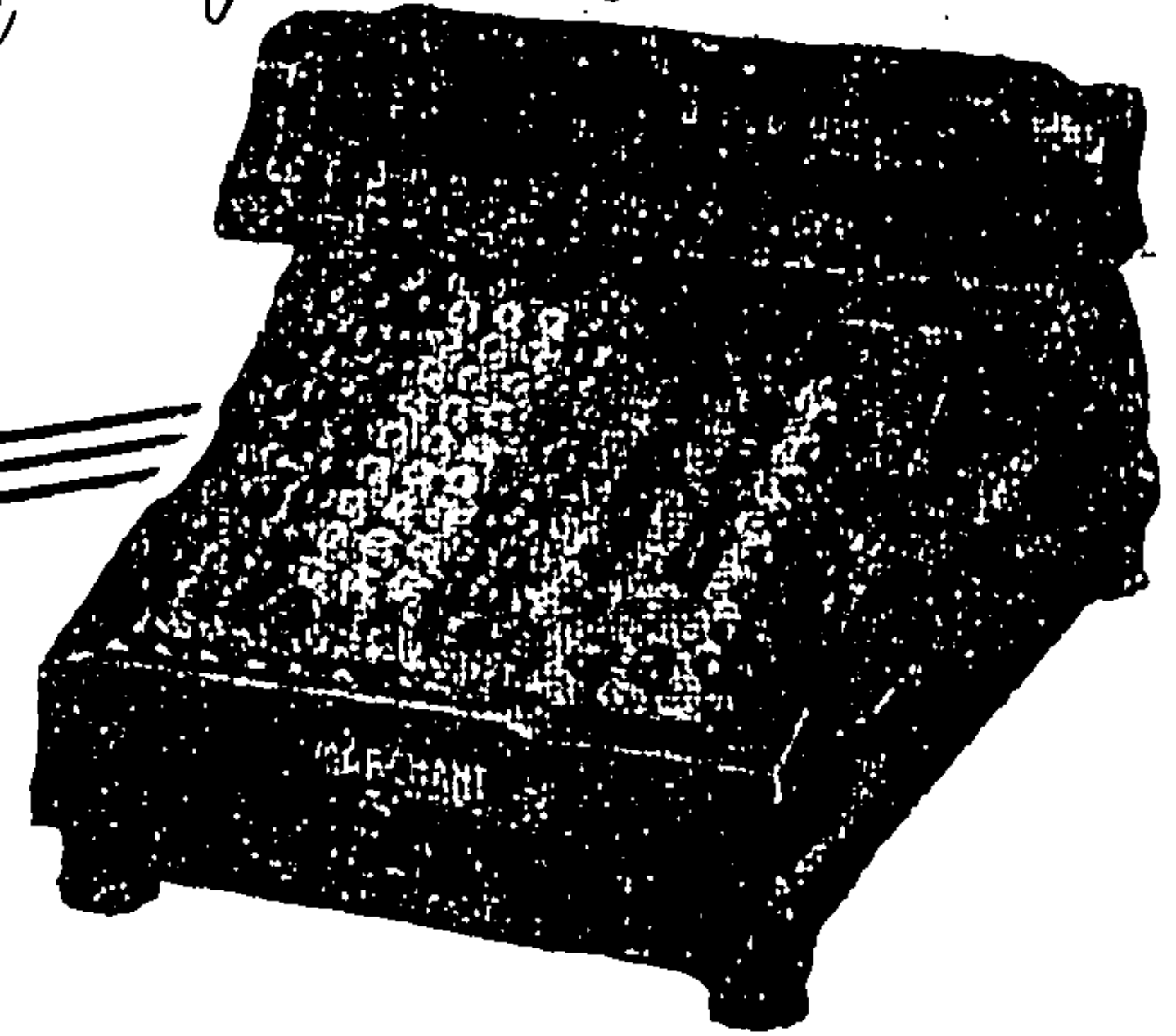
RS' VIEW! By EDWIN ALGER

(Continued on Page 6)



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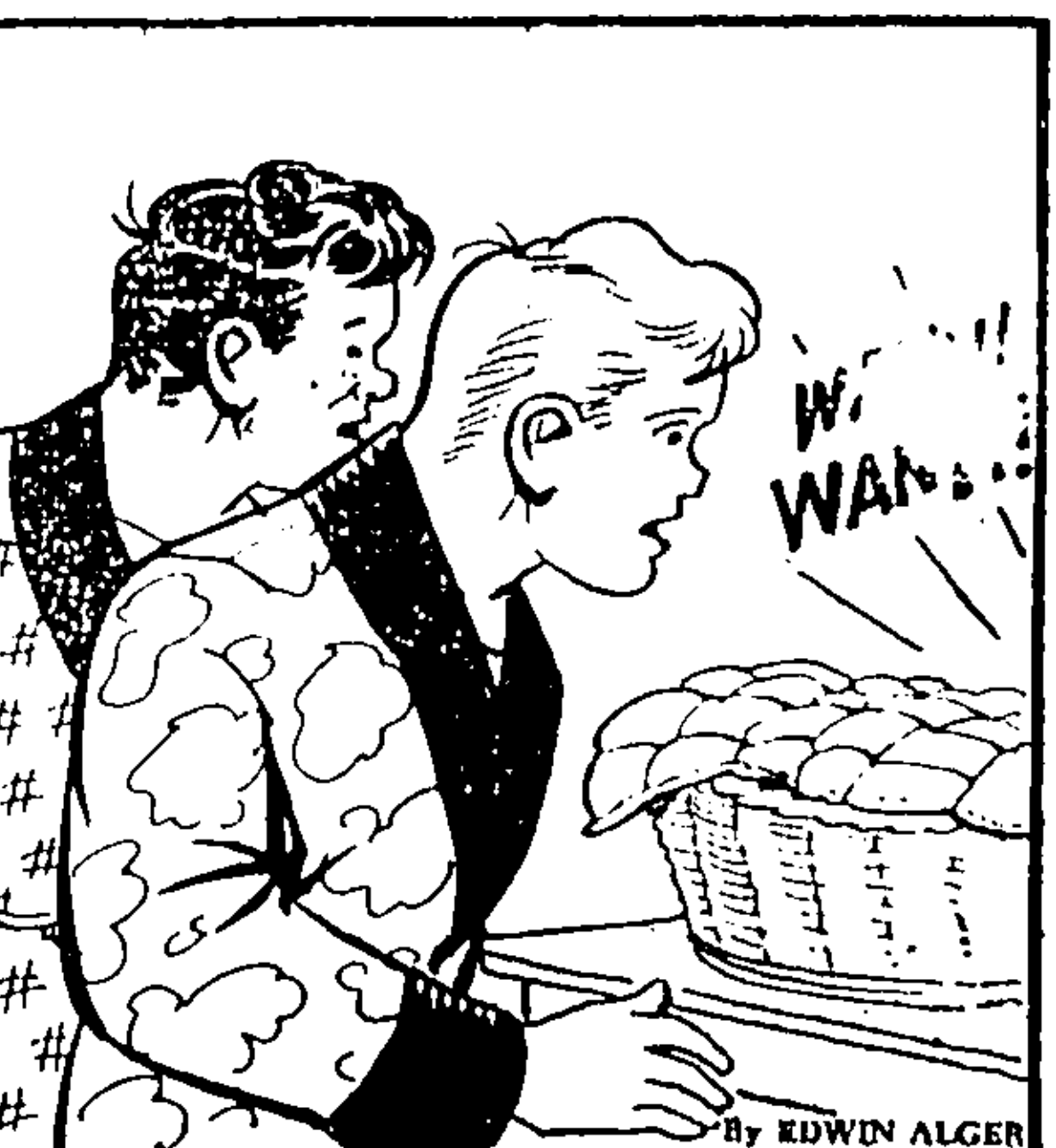
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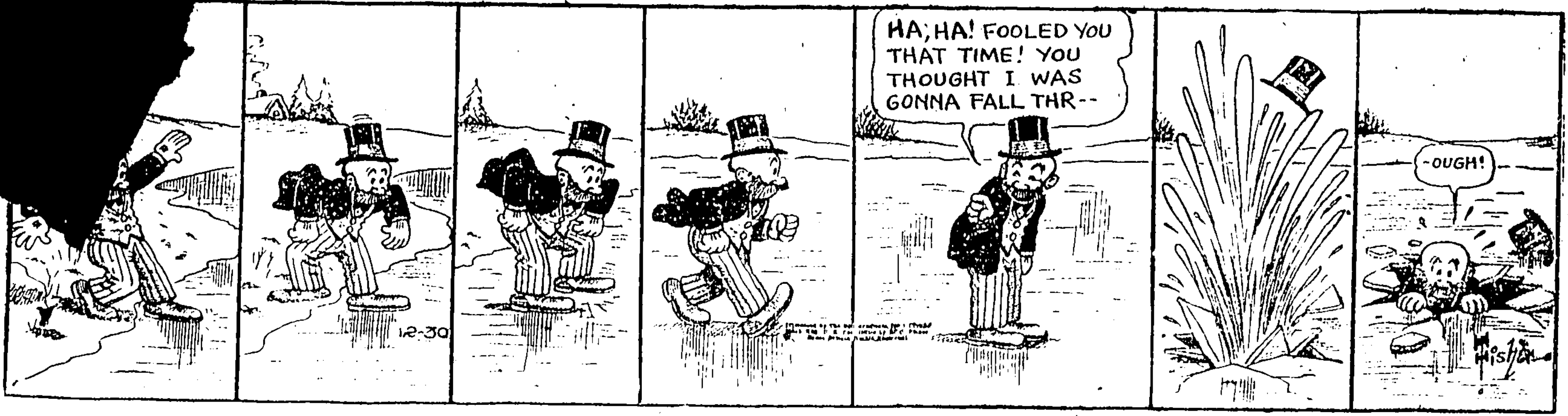
By EDWIN ALGER

(Continued from Page 4)



AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER



A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Eat Iodine Foods For Hair Beauty

Authorities tell us that hair is very dependent upon iodine in the blood stream. If your diet includes sufficient foods containing iodine your hair will keep its beauty and health and its colour, if too many years of vitamin deficiency has not already robbed it of its colour.

The best source of iodine in food is from fish. Clams, cod liver oil, halibut, haddock, oysters, salmon and shrimp all should be included in your menus. Other fish too contain iodine. The next best source is from goat's milk, iodised salt, seaweed powder, kelp and some vegetables and fruits. Barley, green beans, bran, carrots, cherries, corn, loganberries, oats and spinach contain fair amounts of iodine, and surprising as it may seem, sea air furnishes some as you breathe it in. That is why persons who lack iodine usually feel better if they get down near the sea.

Generous amounts of fish should be eaten at least three times a week and your daily menus should contain at least two of the other foods mentioned above.

Your physician will tell you that certain nervous disturbances, specific cases of overweight, lowered mental activity and enlarged thyroid glands are also due, in part at least, to a deficiency of iodine in the blood stream.

Used Also In Shampoo Rinse

If you find your hair pretty lifeless and falling out you might determine if you are lacking iodine. A routine blood test, or metabolism test will indicate this. Some doctors prescribe a drop of iodine in one half glass of water daily until enough iodine foods are consumed to meet the deficiency, but your physician will have to be consulted about this treatment.

Of course keeping your scalp meticulously clean and massaged, and your hair well brushed, adds greatly to hair beauty. Most women require a soap shampoo every two weeks, but one every three weeks is sufficient if your scalp is cleansed scientifically with tonic and brushing between shampoos. Some women use several drops of



Joan Leslie counteracts the effect of tight hats and stuffy rooms on her lovely red-gold hair. She takes her hair brush out to the back yard of her home and brushes up and out, from roots to ends, letting it blow in the breeze as she brushes.

iodine in their last rinsing water and feel that it is beautifying to the hair. To two quarts of rinsing water add not more than five or six drops of iodine from a glass dropper. Mix it well before pouring it through the hair.

Proper Diet Essential

We are told repeatedly by medical men and nutritionists that our

physical beauty is most dependent upon a balanced diet. Too few women know the meaning of "a balanced diet" and do not trouble to learn which foods, and in what combinations, the body requires to keep healthy to give beauty to skin, hair, teeth, and eyes.

It would be wise for these women to start a beauty notebook now, writing down that iodine foods assist in keeping hair lovely!

Grow Strongly Beautiful

One wonders how many women could pass a physical examination if all were called to enlist in the service of our country.

Newspapers tell us that an alarming percentage of American young men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-five cannot meet physical requirements. If male youth is so far from being normally healthy I cannot help but wonder about the physical fitness of women.

There are many contributing reasons why this has happened, but it is none the less alarming to find physical unfitness so prevalent in the age group which should be the strongest. Perhaps if man is to be healthy, strong and happy he should be denied those luxuries which we consider essential to our everyday living. And that brings me right to a point.

Women Are Weak Willed

A very stupid social code has weakened many women. I refer

to those "niceties" which are religiously adhered to by fashionable ladies—one must not carry bundles, let the stores deliver them; one must not be seen walking to an appointment, one must arrive in a taxi or a car; one must not open a window or a door, or lift any object of weight if a man is available to lift it; one must not be seen carrying a suitcase if a collier is about; one must be assisted in and out of buses, cars and taxis by one's escort; one must have an amah for one's child; in fact one must not do anything which would rob one of an expensive, pampered, clinging-vine halo! Such a feminine code is not only unhealthy but it is degenerating!

Meeting A Challenge

When major catastrophies strike us we learn how much we can take. Just look at the women in England. Fortunately for them they have never "softened" quite as much as have Hong Kong women. They now are doing the work of

men—putting in grilling hours of hard work, bearing up under horrifying conditions which we in this country cannot even imagine, and discovering they not only have two reserves of strength but three, four and five.

We must grow strong and by growing strong we will grow more beautiful. The woman who must walk to her appointments, who does carry her bundles, who carries her own bags is better off than her pampered sisters who have grown weak willed and weak in body. Of course there is a limit, but many of us have never begun to tap the energy we have waiting for use.

A wise prophet once horrified a world by loudly stating that war would always be a necessity because man grows weak and ill when he has nothing left to fight for. But there is some truth in his statement—for too many luxuries are crippling, class-consciousness is degrading and unused bodies grow unhealthy. War is a challenge to strength.

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In The Fields Of Sport



The interport game between a Macao XI and the Eastern F.C. in progress. An Eastern player makes a high jump to clear.



O'Regan (Navy) clearing from Hau Ching-to and Cheung Kam-hoi (Eastern) in the Senior League match on Sunday. Eastern's 2-0 victory put them at the head of the table.



Babies from 10 days to 3 years of age are cared for in this orphanage; bombs struck the sanctuary which is only ten yards away from these babies' dormitory. None of the babies received injuries. Photo shows orphans playing at their tables, with the damaged sanctuary in the background. (Copyright, Fox).



A line-out in the rugby game at Sookunpoo on Saturday last between Combined Volunteers and Combined Services.

(Right)—At this Red Cross convalescent home for soldiers "somewhere in Cheshire" wounded and sick soldiers are now enjoying their convalescence in beautiful surroundings. Photo shows convalescent soldiers admiring the view. (Copyright, Fox).



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Secret Behind Wavell Triumphs In Libya War

ATTACKS ON RHODES CONTINUE

The R.A.F. offensive against the island of Rhodes continued on Tuesday night, when Maritza and Calato were raided with success.

Fires were started at Maritza and petrol dumps at Calato were destroyed. At least seven enemy aircraft grounded on the Calato aerodrome were destroyed.

The R.A.F. was also active in the Keren area of Eritrea, where military objectives suffered several direct hits.

The South African Air Force was also in action. Transports were attacked and set on fire. All our aircraft returned safely from these operations. — Reuter.

ALFONSO RENOUNCES RIGHTS

A document signed by ex-King Alfonso, in which he offers to renounce all his rights in favour of his son, the Infante Juan, was published yesterday in Spanish text by the Lisbon newspaper "Voz."

The document is dated from Rome, January 14, 1941. — Reuter.

More Soviet Radio.—According to the Soviet Radio the Moscow-Leningrad broadcasting system will be considerably extended and a number of new stations created.

Brilliant Work By Picked Men For Desert Sabotage

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent with the British and Imperial Forces in Libya)

THE REMARKABLE STORY CAN NOW BE TOLD OF HOW, FOLLOWING ITALY'S ENTRY INTO THE WAR, A SMALL FORCE OF PICKED NEW ZEALAND AND BRITISH TROOPS COVERED THOUSANDS OF MILES THROUGH THE DESERTS OF SOUTHERN LIBYA PROBING THE SECRETS OF ITALY'S DEFENCES AND SABOTAGING HER PREPARATIONS.

BRITISH MISSION RETURNING

Great cordiality and evident friendship marked the stay in Caracas, Venezuela, of the British economic mission to South America, which leaves for England to-morrow. — Reuter.

Known as the "Long Range Desert Group" the force was comprised of picked officers and men from New Zealand and the British Royal Armoured Corps.

It was commanded by a lieutenant-colonel famed as an explorer in the Libyan desert who was formerly a British official in the Egyptian Survey Department and a member of the Palestine Department of Antiquities.

The force journeyed thousands of miles through the southern Libyan deserts, carrying its own supplies, pirating enemy transport, shelling and capturing isolated forts, blowing up dumps and burning grounded aircraft.

Operations were conducted over a radius of over 700 miles south of the Oases of Siwa and Jerrabub and most valuable information was obtained.

After Italy's declaration of war the presence at Kufra of enemy troops and aircraft in unknown numbers was very disturbing to the authorities.

Distinct Threat

They were also known to possess a number of motorised units constructed for desert work and capable of carrying out well executed desert operations. There therefore existed a distinct threat to Upper Egypt by land and air.

It was imperative to find out the secrets lying behind the great sand barrier protecting Kufra and so the vanguard of the Long Range Desert Group set out, defying the sea of sand and the sweltering heat of the August sun.

The vanguard, consisting of a British officer and five New Zealanders in two light cars, crossed the sandy waste—some 800 miles long and an average of 150 miles wide—and struck westwards 200 miles behind the Kufra-Benghazi frontier.

Pave The Way

After days in the desert studying wheelmarks and extracting a wealth of information by other means, the vanguard returned having paved the way for further expeditions.

The same barrier was then crossed for the first time by the Long Range Desert Group, and three columns of loaded trucks crawled 200 miles through the sand-waves.

The New Zealanders, unaccustomed to the desert, soon adapted themselves to conditions.

One truck fell over the brink of a sand dune and rolled 100 feet without being damaged. Hot winds blew a blanket of sand over the convoy.

Bags Of Documents

Patrols separated, each setting off on a 1,000-mile reconnaissance in different parts of enemy territory.

Nothing was heard from them by General Headquarters for a month. Then three bands of bearded, unwashed but exultant "ruffians" appeared in Cairo with a batch of Italian prisoners and bags of captured documents.

One patrol examined all roads leading to Kufra, penetrated 350 miles into Libya and held up columns of enemy lorries in the best highwayman style.

Official Mail

The haul included official mail for Kufra, containing enough information to reveal all the enemy's dispositions in the inner desert area.

A second party crossed the desert south-west of Kufra and travelled along the ancient caravan routes, making contact with Free French outposts in Chad Territory.

A third patrol visited the lonely mountain of Use Inanii Uweinat, and found and destroyed an enemy bomber and a large dump of petrol and bombs.—Reuter.

Stout Italian Defence

The Italians are putting up stout resistance round Keren, strategical town 60 miles north-west of Asmara, in Eritrea.

The fighting is very tough and over difficult ground.

The British advance is progressing towards Arreza, which lies 30 miles south-west of Asmara.

Here the country is also difficult and the retreating Italians have been obliged to jettison much of their equipment.

The advance east of Lake Rudolf, in Abyssinia, is also progressing satisfactorily.

Patrol actions only are reported from other fronts.—Reuter.

WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that the anticyclone continues to extend southward and eastward and now covers China, Japan and neighbouring seas.

Pressure remains highest to the north of the Yangtze.

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PACIFIC CRISIS DEVELOPING

**U.S. Keeps
Close
Eye**

Washington is paying the closest attention to the crisis apparently developing in the Pacific.

The arrival in Washington of the new Japanese Ambassador, Admiral Nomura, has coincided with a considerable quantity of Japanese publicity similar to that which heralded the arrival of the former Ambassador, Mr. Kensei Horinouchi, of an anti-Soviet nature and seeking to give the general impression that the Soviet is really responsible for sowing the seeds of discord in Japanese-American relations.

This coincides, too, with reports from Moscow that Japan is straining every nerve to effect better relations with the Soviet, even at the price of concessions not previously considered.

Observers in Washington see this as another effort to protect by friendly agreement her Russian flank in case developments in Europe favour the Axis and make that longed for southward adventure reasonably safe.

Tension in Tokyo

That tension and nervousness exist in Tokyo, however, is seen in the avidness with which President Roosevelt's remarks at his press conference on Tuesday have been misinterpreted in Japan.

Some astonishment was caused in Washington by Tokyo's interpretations of those remarks that if the United States are forced into war in the Pacific it would make no difference to American deliveries of war materials to Britain.

Reports cabled back from Tokyo quote the President as saying that war in the Pacific was an unthinkable eventuality.

No paper in America appears to have heard that statement nor did President Roosevelt, as reported in the Tokyo press, describe a question about aid to Britain in the event of a Pacific war as a hypothetical question.

Firm "No"

The President declared it was a bit "iffy" but he saw no reason why he should not answer it and gave a firm no in reply.

He later described it as a fair question to which he had given a fair answer.

General impression in Washington seems to be that the President indicated that America is in a position to look after its vital interests in the Pacific while still acting as arsenal for the Democracies fighting Nazi aggression. — Reuters.

WEATHER FORECAST: North-east winds, fresh to strong, cloudy with rain, probably improving.

**WILLKIE
KNOX "CLASH"
UNIMPORTANT**

There is no controversy between President Roosevelt and Colonel Frank Knox, Secretary of Navy, or Mr. Wendell Willkie on the question of turning over more destroyers to Britain, declares an announcement issued from the White House last night. — Reuters.

**BRITISH DEFENCE
MEASURES ON
THAI BORDER**

A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED in Bangkok says that news from various sources is now current that the British military authorities have stationed land, naval and air forces on the Thailand border adjoining the Federated Malay States and Burma and this may lead some people to misunderstand that Great Britain will eventually violate Thai territory.

The Thailand Government therefore beg to state that the friendly relations happily existing between Great Britain and Thailand remain unimpaired and both countries still respect the treaty and pact of non-aggression concluded between one another, and their mutual understanding and sympathy still exist and is extremely cordial in every way.

**LEND AND
LEASE
CONFLICT**

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")
A sharp conflict over the Lend and Lease Bill broke out in the Senate immediately after the Foreign Relations Committee had approved the measure by 15 votes to eight.

Senator Austin (Vermont) demanded that both Britain and the United States publicise their "peace aims," and asserted: "I

Diplomatic commentators welcome the communique as an opportune and categorical reaffirmation of Anglo-Thai cordiality, especially in view of the present acute Anglo-Japanese estrangement and manifestations of Thai-Japanese amity since Tokyo took a hand in settling Thailand's border conflict with French Indo-China.

The communique is also interesting as evidence of Thailand's correct evaluation of the factors which influenced Britain hurriedly to strengthen Malaya's fortifying as evidence of Thailand.

It is thought Britain has not the slightest intention of menacing Thailand itself. — Reuters.

**EVENTS MOVING
SWIFTLY: SOFIA
THREAT TO GREECE**

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

EVENTS ARE DEVELOPING SWIFTLY IN THE BALKANS TO ALL OUTWARD APPEARANCE, THOUGH THE SOURCE OF THE MORE SENSATIONAL REPORTS, BUDAPEST, IS A RECOMMENDATION TO EXERCISE RESERVE.

Most startling of the several developments reported, through Reuter's New York correspondent, is the comment of a radio campaign by Bulgaria against Greece.

This report, which emanates from Budapest, states that the official Bulgarian Radio station at Sofia yesterday demanded the immediate cession by Greece to Bulgaria of a corridor through Greece to the Aegean Sea.

The Bulgarian spokesman argued that the territory between the Bays of Salonika and Pharos, formerly Bulgarian, still contains Bulgars, and "the problem has now become acute."

THE BUDAPEST CORRESPONDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE, SIMULTANEOUSLY, REPORTED TO NEW YORK THAT, ACCORDING TO DESPATCHES RECEIVED FROM SOFIA, KING BORIS OF BULGARIA SUDDENLY HURRIED BACK TO SOFIA FROM HIS COUNTRY SEAT LAST NIGHT AND IMMEDIATELY WENT INTO CONFERENCE WITH THE BULGARIAN CABINET TO DISCUSS "PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH ADHERENCE TO THE ROYAL-BERLIN-TOKYO AXIS."

The Soviet Government is reported to have repeated the (Continued on Page 16)

**Good
Omen for
China**

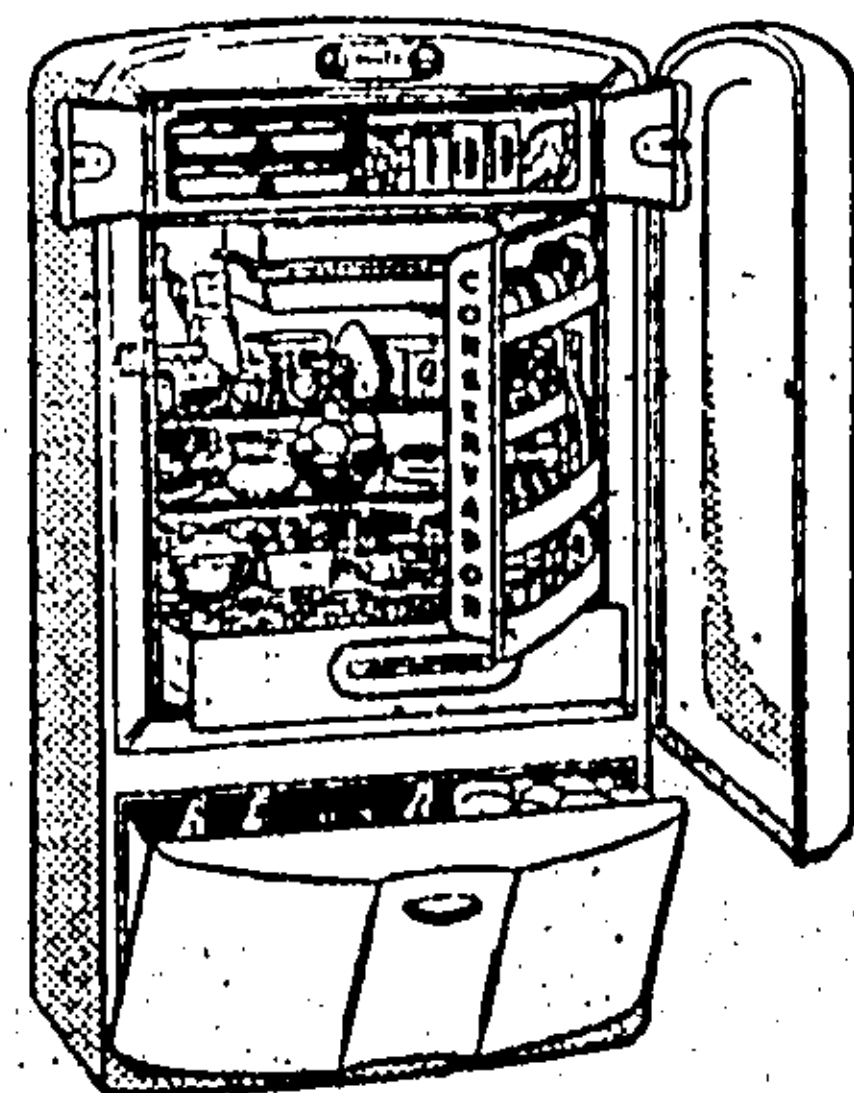
(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")
Hailed as a good omen for China by both superstitious and non-superstitious, snow fell in many parts of Central and North China, according to reports received in Shanghai last night.

Shanghai had its first taste on Wednesday when the entire city was blanketed with a few inches of snow.

It started to snow in Central China on Tuesday when Loyang reported that snow started falling that night and continued throughout the following day burying the town in three feet of snow.

Hingse, in North China, and Lanchow also reported snow that same day.

Villagers and farmers predict a good harvest this year. — Our Own Correspondent.

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CHINA AND PACIFIC CRISIS

May Be Able To Lend Effective Aid To Britain

Issue Under Discussion In Chungking

CHINA'S PART IN possible further developments in the Pacific is being so eagerly discussed in Chungking as to push the China War into the background.

It is realised that the future of the world now depends on whether Britain can hold out in Europe against the German onslaught and whether the combined British and United States forces in the Far East can defeat any eventual Japanese drive in the southern Pacific.

The report that fresh evacuation advice has been given to United States citizens in the Far East has attracted much attention in Chungking.

Prominence has also been given to the statement made by President Roosevelt on Tuesday to the effect that if the United States were forced into war in the Pacific it would not mean curtailment of war supplies to Britain and added that he thought there was no danger of the United States getting into war.

London cables mentioning the possibility of a Japanese move in the Pacific to support a German attack in Europe are also being discussed in Chungking.

Nazi Activity

These developments tend to confirm information reaching Chinese headquarters in Chungking that Germany has been very active in the last three weeks urging Japan to move in the Pacific against Britain and the United States, also that Japan has agreed to support Germany.

Many Chinese quarters consider China will not remain idle if Japan attacks in the southern Pacific, since China can effectively aid Britain in the defence of Burma and Singapore, either by sending troops into Burma and Malaya or by launching a counter-offensive in China.

Indication that the British Ambassador, Sir Archibald Clark-Kerr, is unlikely to leave Chungking in the immediate future is seen in Lady Kerr's arrival in the Chinese capital from Hong Kong yesterday morning by plane.

THE AMBASSADOR WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO LEAVE THIS WEEK BY AIR FOR HONG KONG TO JOIN LADY KERR.—REUTER.

COST OF COVERING THE WAR

A COMPLAINT MADE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EMPIRE PRESS UNION THAT "MESSAGES FROM EGYPT ABOUT THE GLORIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ARMY OF THE NILE HAVE BEEN COSTING ABOUT THREE TIMES AS MUCH AS THEY WOULD BETWEEN TWO PARTS OF THE EMPIRE" WAS UNDERLINED IN AN EDITORIAL IN THE "YORKSHIRE POST" YESTERDAY.

The newspaper says: "It would be an advantage to the Empire press and Empire readers if Government could persuade Egypt to adopt the Empire flat rate of 2½d a word for press messages sent outside that country."

Reference was also made at the meeting to the handicaps of the press censorship which delayed vital news and gave an advantage to broadcasting.—Reuter.

AID BRITAIN BILL LITTLE CHANGED

THE MEASURE PASSED BY THE SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REGARDING THE LEASE AND LEND BILL IS SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME AS THAT PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A proposal to restrict presidential authority under the Bill to send armed forces out of the Western Hemisphere was rejected by the Committee.

The Senate debate will begin on Monday, and it is hoped to restrict it to a fortnight.—Reuter.

AMAH BOUND OVER

Convicted for stealing of \$30.34, three gold rings and a gold bracelet from her mistress, Au Sui-mui, 18, spinster, was placed on a \$50 bond to be of good behaviour by Mr. E. H. Hensworth this morning.

Accused was employed by Mrs. Lorna Dong, of No. 54, Taiipo Road. At 11.50 p.m. on Tuesday, returning home, Mr. Dong found the door open and his wife's handbag on the floor.

Mrs. Dong was awakened by her husband and they made a check, discovering the theft.

Police suspected accused and found the money and the jewellery in her pillow.

GIFT FOR JERVIS BAY DEPENDANTS

The Basra British War Relief Fund has sent £5,000 to the Admiralty for distribution among the dependents of seamen who lost their lives in the sinking of the Jervis Bay which saved a convoy by heroically drawing the full fire of a heavily armed German raider.—British Wireless.

CHINESE ATTACK NEAR SHASI

Chinese troops who pushed their way to the suburbs of Shasi, 110 miles above Hankow, have been attacking the Japanese at Shapaozhe, only three miles from Shasi, with considerable success. Fighting is still in progress in that area.—Central News.

U.S. ADVICE TO LEAVE

Americans had been advised to leave the Far East, according to Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State.

Speaking in Washington yesterday Mr. Hull said United States consular officers warned United States citizens in Far Eastern countries to evacuate as a precautionary measure in view of the disturbed conditions.

THE STATEMENT FOLLOWED THE PUBLICATION OF DESPATCHES FROM TOKYO AND SHANGHAI SAYING THAT ALL WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND MEN ABLE TO DO SO HAD BEEN URGENTLY ADVISED TO LEAVE.—REUTER.

Mr. Southard Surprised

"There has been no new developments and the situation, as far as the advice given to American subjects, women, children and non-essential persons, to return to the United States, is about the same to-day as it was in October last, when the first advice was issued in Hong Kong on instructions from Washington," declared Mr. Addison Southard, American Consul-General in Hong Kong, to the "China Mail" this morning.

Mr. Southard expressed astonishment at the sensational interpretation of the advice reiterated by the American Consul-General in Shanghai.

Mr. Southard pointed out that following the first advice given in October last, the local Consulate has reiterated this same advice to local American residents monthly, either by circular or verbally. He has received no fresh instruction to issue a more vigorous circular in connection with this advice.

Statement By U.S. Consulate

Mr. Addison E. Southard, the American Consul-General in Hong Kong, this morning issued a statement advising women, children and men whose continued presence here is not essential, to return to America as soon as they can conveniently arrange to do so.

The statement reads as follows: "In accordance with standing instructions from the Department of State, I again quietly remind U.S. citizens in this area of the advice given in our Circular Notice of October 9th, 1940, to the effect that women and children, together with men whose continued presence here is not essential, go home as soon as they can conveniently arrange to do so."

"The Department of State has reminded me that it is making no assumption that a situation of 'acute physical danger to U.S. Nationals is imminent', in reiterating its previous advice to our citizens about going home."

"This reiteration of advice is not meant to be alarmist and is made at this time mainly because of the continued existence in the Far East of political uncertainties which might in time make more difficult the protection of the safety, rights, and privileges which our citizens living abroad expect and to which they are rightfully entitled from our Government."

"Our Government does not at this time contemplate repeating the special transportation arrangements made a few months ago to assist in the withdrawal of U.S. citizens, and those who plan to go home are advised to take advantage of the currently available regular transportation facilities."

Mr. Southard said that despite the previous advice to evacuate, very few American nationals in Hong Kong have left so far.

YOUTHS OF NINETEEN TO REGISTER

Youths of 19 and just over, born between January 1 and December 31, 1921, are to register for military service on Saturday, February 22.

This will be the first registration under the Proclamation of January 29, extending the age limit to men who had then reached the age of 18 but had not reached 41.—Reuter.

CUBA BANS AXIS PROPAGANDA

Regulations prohibiting the dissemination of totalitarian propaganda of any kind by the press, radio, films or through the post, were approved by the Cuban Cabinet in Havana yesterday, says Reuter.

U.S. Gives 6,000 Stoves.—The American Red Cross has given 3,000 heating and 3,000 cooking stoves for use in emergency hospitals, rest centres, first aid posts, and army medical units.

OSUMI INCIDENT DENIAL

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE CLAIM MADE BY THE CHUNGKING AUTHORITIES THAT THE JAPANESE AIR LINER CARRYING THE LATE ADMIRAL BARON OSUMI AND FIVE OTHER JAPANESE NAVAL OFFICERS WAS SHOT DOWN BY CHINESE GUERRILLAS, WAS RIDICULED BY THE SPOKESMAN OF THE JAPANESE SOUTH CHINA SEAS FLEET IN CANTON YESTERDAY.

The spokesman pointed out that Chungking made the announcement of the alleged successful attack on February 8 several hours after the Japanese Navy Ministry announced, at noon on that day, that the plane had crashed on February 7.

The spokesman contended that the commander of the guerillas who was credited with shooting down the air liner was in Macao with his staff.—Reuter Special.

TURKISH DEAL WITH RUMANIANS

Turkey is to receive 180,000 tons of petroleum from Rumania under an agreement just concluded between the two countries, according to an Istanbul despatch to the German news agency yesterday.—Reuter.

Congratulations to Eton.—Pennsylvania University, celebrating its 200th anniversary, has sent congratulations to Eton College, which reached its 500th birthday last week.

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BRITISH CONTROL OF MEDITERRANEAN

THE BOMBARDMENT of Genoa shows that the British Fleet continues to dominate the Mediterranean and the Italian African armies are virtually separated from Italy, writes the military correspondent of the Swiss newspaper "La Suisse."

The "National Zeitung" of Berne says that the speed with which General Wavell's on-storming Empire troops reached and captured Benghazi has not only surprised laymen.

The performance of the British troops and High Command calls for the respect of all unprejudiced observers.

Whether the course of the African campaign is of importance for the final decision or whether the British advance continues, the widespread rumour that England is an old country and the home of an old people without power to live or resist is after all only a rumour.

The way the English have borne terrible bombing attacks without weakening or crying for the world's recognition has destroyed this rumour.

Not many of the so-called young peoples could have achieved this record of sang froid and nervous endurance. Reuter.

Nazi Problem

The "Gazette de Lausanne" says Britain is armed, strong and ready.

The "Tribune de Lausanne" says: "Germany is now obliged to seek a decision in Britain. A surprise attack is hardly possible and could only be tried when the British fleet and air force have been defeated. This will be long and costly." British Wireless.

HE SAVED HIS LIFE RISKING IT

A sailor aboard a ship which hit an enemy mine owes his life to the fact that he risked death to retrieve from his cabin a letter from his wife and photographs of his children.

While he was collecting his treasures the lifeboat in which he should have taken his place capsized.

The letter—the only one he has received for a year—and the photographs are all that Alfred Eknes, aged fifty-eight, has to remind him of the home he once had in Norway.

"In the last war I was torpedoed twice, but it was different then, for I had a home," he told a reporter. "Now I do not even know where my wife is. The Germans are in our country."

Eknes's ship was bringing a cargo of food to England when it struck the mine.

Navy To the Rescue

Though the engine room was quickly under water and they had temporarily to take to the lifeboats, the thirty-one Norwegian sailors on board refused to abandon their ship.

They stayed by her all night and then, aided by British naval men, some of them boarded her again and brought the ship safely to port.

"I cannot face telling my family what has befallen me," said Eknes. "I dare not write, even if I knew where they were."

Eknes's greatest friend at the moment is the Rev. Arthur Bowen, one of the Missions to Seamen chaplains, who is busy supplying him with a new outfit before once again he goes to sea to bring in more food for Britain.

MAGIC STUDIO

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ARMY TO GROW FOOD

A SCHEME HAS BEEN LAUNCHED UNDER WHICH SOLDIERS OF THE SCOTTISH COMMAND WILL GROW VEGETABLES ON ALL ARABLE LAND UNDER ITS CONTROL.

"The army will grow food on its land just as any other occupier," said the officer in charge of the scheme, "always with the provision that the Army must be allowed to train."

The Treasury has made a grant for tools and seeds and hundreds of gardeners or farmers now serving in the Army will be employed wholly on the new scheme as advisers and instructors.

Tractors will be hired to plough up larger areas although a great deal of the work will be on the allotment system. Main crop will be potatoes. British Wireless.

LADY (AUSTEN) CHAMBERLAIN PASSES

The death was announced in London yesterday of Lady Chamberlain, widow of Sir Austen Chamberlain, former Foreign Secretary and half-brother of the late Mr. Neville Chamberlain.

Lady Chamberlain passed away after a short illness.—Reuter.

3,985 INTERNEES FREED IN ENGLAND

Three thousand eight hundred and ninety-one internees have been released temporarily or permanently on medical grounds, and sixty-nine doctors and dentists, and twenty-five employers engaged in work certified by a Government department to be of value to the community, also have been freed.

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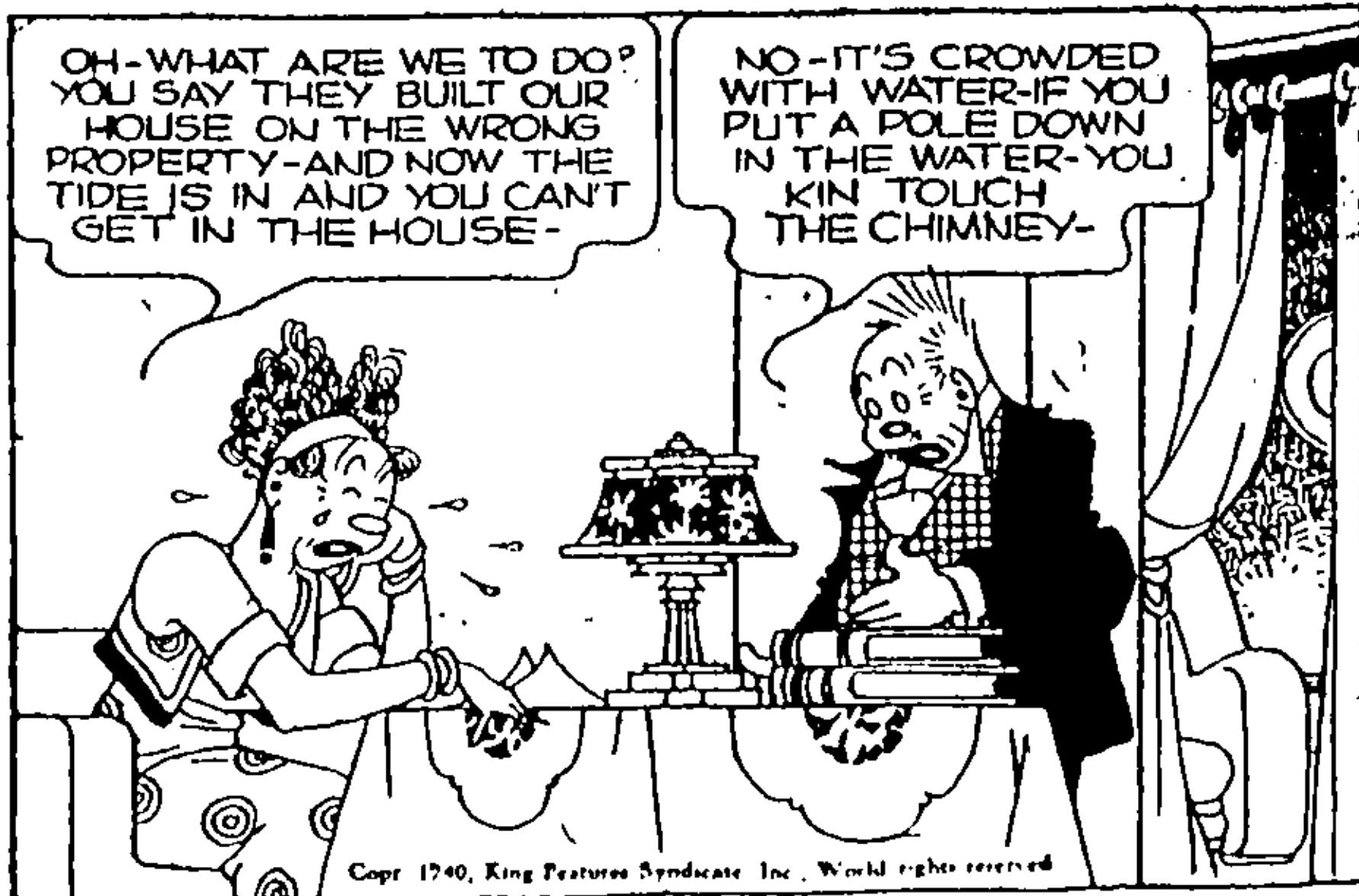
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BRITISH TOILING FOR GERMANS

British soldiers are constructing roads, repairing bridges and erecting buildings in ruined Poland, a German paper published in Brussels discloses.

An article on a new road and their construction in Poland refers to the British war prisoners.

Road labourers are seen everywhere who would scarcely have dreamed six months ago of being called on this kind of work. The last time they were seen was in a desolate second town on the coast at La Panne and Dunkirk.

Now they are found bending over their ruined heritage, roads built by their splendidly guaranteed war partner, Poland. They have the pleasure of doing something to atone for Poland's neglect.

The article says: "The Tommies do not take their work in a sporting spirit, but do their job."

It is stated that a "certain amount of self-government is allowed within the camp. Authority is in the hands of an English regular sergeant with eighteen years' service."

The writer admits that the sergeant has "real military bearing," but gibes at the "very soft and slovenly" soldiers under him.

K.R.A. AND PROPOSED NEW HOSPITALS

THE PRINCIPAL ITEM of business on the agenda at the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Kowloon Residents' Association, was consideration of the draft Annual Report for 1940, which will be presented at the Annual Meeting of members to be held in the St. Andrew's Church Hall on Friday, 28th. February, 1941, at 6.00 p.m.

DUDLEY HOUSE DAMAGED

One of the largest private houses in London, Dudley House, Park Lane, was damaged in an air raid recently. There were no casualties.

The house was built in 1824 by Lord Dudley, at one time Foreign Secretary, and was a notable centre for musical and other receptions.

Some years ago Mr. Whitelaw Reid bought it for his daughter, Lady Ward, who was married to the late Lord Dudley's younger brother. Last year Mrs. James Corrigan, the American hostess, rented it for two months of the season for £5,000.

Among the correspondence was a letter from the Hon. Director of Medical Services relative to the proposed new general hospital and new infectious diseases hospital to be erected on the Kowloon Medical Centre. It was decided to ask whether the Committee may be given an opportunity to scrutinise the plans of both institutions, which they had been given to understand had already been prepared.

Attention was given to several complaints received regarding the misbehaviour of certain Indian soldiers in molesting ladies and young girls in the streets. The Committee were confident that if these complaints were brought to the notice of the D.A.A.G., he would take prompt steps to put a stop to the annoyance, and it was decided to write him on the subject.

Another question discussed was the need for amended regulations or such steps that would reserve the main traffic roadway for motor vehicles only on those portions of Waterloo Road, Argyle Street, and Prince Edward Road, where the "islands" have been extended and the main drive reduced to a width of 37 feet. It was pointed out that unless pedestrians kept to the footpaths, and slow moving traffic, such as bicycles and tricycles to the sidelanes, there was a considerable element of danger to the travelling public, particularly when a motor car attempted to overtake a bus, which was not keeping strictly to the extreme left of the drive. It was decided to draw the attention of the Traffic Authorities to the matter.

FOUGHT IN LAST WAR AT 13: HERE AGAIN

The youngest Canadian to fight in the last war is serving the Empire again.

He is Quartermaster-Sergeant D. Murdoch, of the Royal Canadian Engineers, now in England with his unit.

In the Great War he was a sailor. He joined the Navy in 1916, when he was thirteen years and ten months.

"I was driving along the street and the traffic lights were at red. I drew up, saw a recruiting poster, got out of the car and enlisted. If the traffic lights had been at green I should not have been here now," said the young Canadian.

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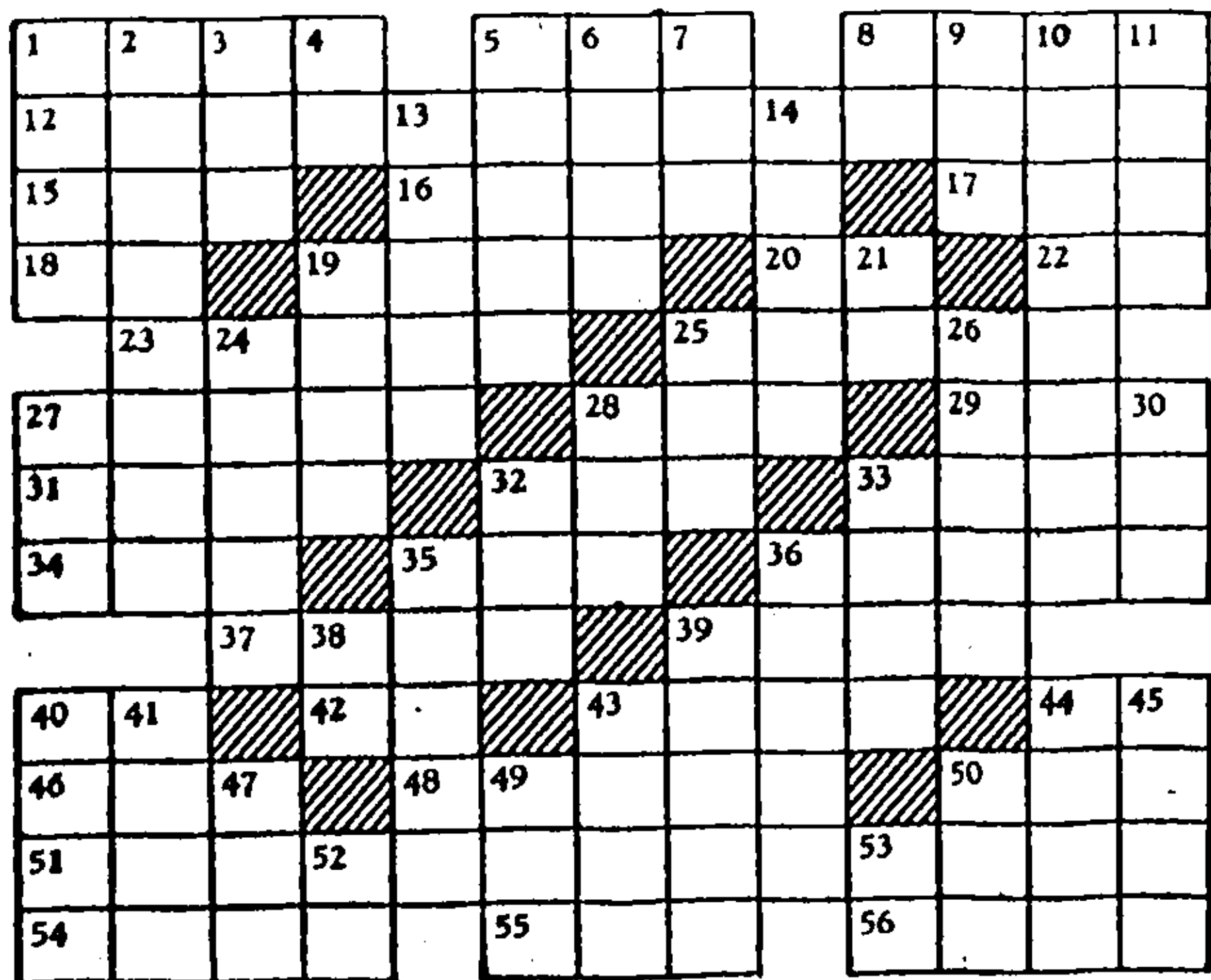


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OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



HORIZONTAL

- 1 Auction
- 5 Social insect
- 8 Law: delay
- 12 Inexplicable
- 15 Crude metal
- 16 American frontiersman
- 17 Man's name
- 18 Toward
- 19 Large deer
- 20 Symbol for sodium chloride
- 22 Printer's measure
- 23 Spirit under the control of Solomon
- 25 French soldier
- 27 Employees
- 28 Mongrel
- 29 Philippine savage
- 31 Emmets
- 32 To make lace
- 33 Dry
- 34 Music: as written
- 35 To weaken
- 37 To alter
- 37 College official
- 39 Part of the eye
- 40 Japanese money
- 42 Preposition
- 43 Stepped
- 44 Symbol for oleum

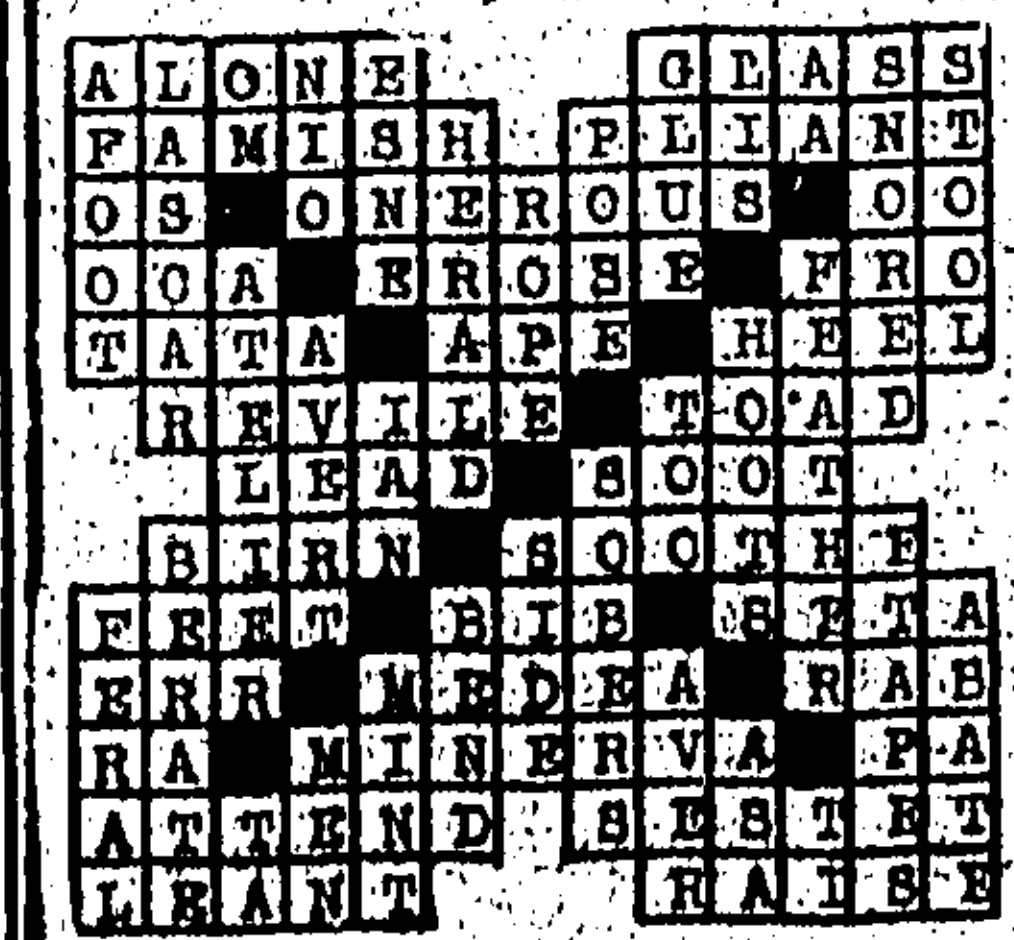
VERTICAL

- 1 Stain
- 2 Haughty
- 3 Confederate general
- 4 French for "and"
- 5 Colloquial: moneyless
- 6 Man's name
- 7 To bring forth
- 8 Greek letter

9 Anglo-Saxon money

- 10 Russian monk
- 11 Turkish regiment
- 13 Chief of the jlnns
- 14 Male singing voice
- 19 Football players
- 21 Sloth
- 24 Toward the centre
- 25 To place
- 26 Roman household gods
- 27 Possesses
- 28 Bottle-top
- 30 To append
- 32 Light brown
- 33 Among
- 35 Greek poetess
- 36 Scent
- 38 Erefix: good
- 39 Goddess of peace
- 40 Patagonian cavy
- 41 Toward the mouth
- 43 Group of three
- 44 Greek coin
- 45 Smooth
- 47 Consumed
- 49 Deed
- 50 Assistance
- 52 Preposition
- 53 Note of scale

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



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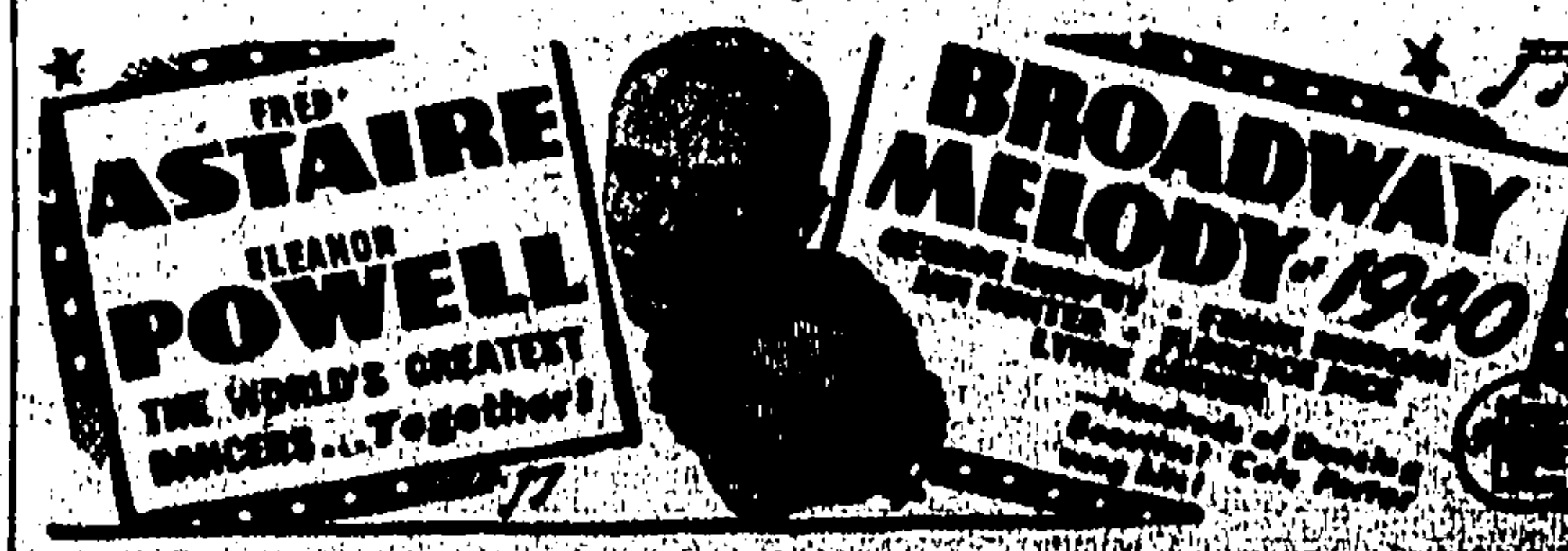
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SPANISH MOVE TO JOIN THE AXIS NOT EXPECTED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE MEETING BETWEEN GENERAL FRANCO AND MARSHAL PETAIN WAS REPORTED TO BE CONCERNED WITH EUROPEAN PROBLEMS AND IT IS INDICATED THAT FRANCO GAVE MARSHAL PETAIN A RESUME OF HIS TALKS WITH MUSSOLINI.

Rome radio says that the talks concerned the "new order" in Europe.

The Mussolini/Franco talk took place at Bordighera and the discussion covered a wide-range of topics relating to European and African developments.

Officials in London, according to the B.B.C., consider it extremely unlikely that General Franco is about to join the Axis. — International News Service.

Italian Statement

The Mediterranean and Africa were the main questions discussed at the meeting at Bordighera between General Franco and Mussolini, according to the official Italian news agency yesterday quoting "authorised quarters in Rome."

Repeating the words of the official communique the agency adds: "There was certainly a question of problems arising from the conflict with which are connected the reorganisation of Europe and of questions concerning the Mediterranean and Africa."

"On these two points perfect identity of views was noted. Spain's attitude of solidarity with the Axis is being continued."

"Political Comrades"

The same "authorised quarters" are stated to have commented on the meeting thus: "This meeting between two statesmen linked by close political comradeship is inclined to have that importance which is characterised by the military and political circumstances of the moment."

"It is significant that General Franco met the Duce for the first time in Italy, thus giving the lie to certain allegations of enemy propaganda."

"The Bordighera meeting was above all devoted to an examination of questions which interest the two countries." — Reuter.

The Petain-Franco Meeting

Marshal Petain received General Franco and Senor Serrano Suner, the Spanish Foreign Minister, immediately after the Spanish leaders had arrived at Montpellier at 1.55 yesterday afternoon.

After lunching together Marshal Petain and General Franco had a conversation lasting three hours.

General Franco was accompanied, in addition to Senor Suner, by a suite composed both of civilian and military officials.

While General Franco and Marshal Petain were together a large crowd gathered outside the building and cheered loudly.

Both Smiling

Responding to demands the two leaders appeared on the balcony and were greeted with shouts of "Vive Franco" and "Vive Petain". Both were smiling.

Before General Franco entered his car the band played both the Spanish anthem and the Marseillaise.

During the afternoon Senor Suner had a conversation with Admiral Darlan, the French Foreign Minister and Vice-Premier.

Franco Leaves For Home

A message from Berlin received in New York states that General Franco has left Montpellier for Madrid after his meeting with Marshal Petain. — Reuter.

SERIOUS CHARGES BROUGHT

Wong Kui-fui, 31, alias Wong Kung-but, was again before Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., this morning, when nine additional charges were preferred.

He was originally charged with embezzlement of \$5,000 and alternatively with fraudulent conversion of the \$5,000.

He now faces two other charges of embezzlement of sums totalling \$19,409.05, and, alternatively, fraudulent conversion of the money, and four charges of falsification of accounts.

Mr. P. Y. Woo is appearing for the prosecution, and Mr. J. M. d'Almada Remedios for the defence.

Detective Sergeant R. Mcvey, for the Police, asked the Court to adjourn the case for a week.

FORCIBLY REMOVED FROM DOCK

AN UNUSUAL SCENE WAS WITNESSED AT THE CENTRAL MAGISTRACY THIS MORNING, WHEN A BANISHEE, CHIU FOOK-YUEN, REFUSED TO LEAVE THE DOCK WHEN SENTENCED TO NINE MONTHS' HARD LABOUR BY MR. H. G. SHELDON, K.C., FOR A BREACH OF THE DEPORTATION ORDINANCE.

After hearing his sentence, the banishee yelled: "I'd rather hang than to go to prison."

It required four European Police Officers to remove him to a cell.

According to the defendant, he had to return to the Colony because he had been ill-treated by the Japanese in Shaychung. Inspector Tuckett prosecuted.

BOY FINED AS GAMBLING KEEPER

A 14-year-old boy was fined \$50 by Mr. E. Himsforth at Kowloon this morning for keeping a "Tse Fa" gambling den at No. 25, Koon Chung Street.

The lad was caught writing the lottery when Det.-Sgt. Baldwin raided the premises yesterday.

YUGOSLAV PREMIER OFF TO BERLIN

It was reported in London last night that the Yugoslav Premier and Foreign Minister left Belgrade yesterday for Berlin at the invitation of the German Government, says a Reuter despatch.

Civilian Peril In Ethiopia

The evacuation of civilians from Abyssinia is considered as a likely subject to have been discussed between Mussolini and General Franco, according to the Vichy correspondent of the "Gazette de Lausanne" yesterday.

This question, involving as it does the utilisation of the Addis-Ababa-Djibouti railway, which has its terminus in French Somaliland, also concerns France.

This is regarded by the correspondent as sufficient to explain the meeting between Marshal Petain and General Franco. Political observers in Zurich incline to the view that Mussolini probably sounded General Franco as to what help he would be able to afford Italy. — Reuter.

DUBLIN GETTING PREPARED

The importance of perfecting evacuation plans "while time is still available," was stressed by Mr. William Norton, Leader of the Labour Party in the Dail, broadcasting from Dublin last night.

Mr. de Valera recently announced that if the voluntary evacuation scheme proved unsatisfactory the Government would resort to compulsion.

Mr. Norton said: "We know the plight of millions of refugees in other countries who had no time to prepare for evacuation, and we have that lesson before us." — Reuter.

CANADIAN DEFENCE PROJECT

A system of aerodromes through Alberta and British Columbia leading to Alaska is being established by the Canadian Government as a defence measure at a cost of about £2,000,000, it was announced in Ottawa yesterday by Mr. C. G. Power, Minister of Defence and Air Minister. — Reuter.

CHINESE SOCIETY WEDDING

The marriage of Miss Angela Wia Chun Gockchun and Mr. Chan Shu-kai is to take place at St. John's Cathedral to-morrow afternoon.

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BRITAIN'S HEALTH

It is an interesting fact that in spite of gloomy prognostications, the health of the British people sleeping in air raid shelters and, incidentally, their morale, has not deteriorated during the past winter months, a period of the year which is usually associated with colds, influenza and similar complaints.

Air raid shelters are not and cannot be the most salubrious places in the world. Combined with lack of fresh air they are for the most part filled to capacity so that one sick person could presumably infect a score of others. But contrary to medical and health theories, this has not happened. The people emerge from their crowded night quarters each morning still unburdened with unpleasant germs. All of which is probably due to the fact that under present conditions they have no time to devote to their own physical disabilities, and although they have gone through months of the most nerve-racking experiences, in the most uncomfortable of conditions, they remain healthily on their feet.

Compared with total population, the number of air raid shelters does not seem very high, but they are probably adequate. At all events, in London alone public night accommodation is now available for nearly one and a half million and when the severity of the raid demands it, this number goes underground. Londoners, accustomed to tubes, perhaps take more readily to shelters than those living in provincial towns, who prefer to remain in their own quarters however great the risk.

The official precautions taken on behalf of the public include 1,800 first aid posts and 800 mobile first aid posts. Emergency hospital service has been highly organised in anticipation of an invasion and a quarter of a million beds for air raid casualties were arranged although few have up to now been used. The question of supplying those taking shelter with food was a difficult one, but that the problem is being vigorously tackled can be gathered from the fact that there are over 1,800 canteens in London alone.

One other point that denotes the highly organised state of the country: this is the provision which is being made for the benefit of those in-

ABOUT a week before the war started, I was hearing from somebody whose part in it was certain to be very prominent what course he thought it would take.

He was convinced that strategically the crucial point was the Suez Canal and that the Germans would be on the shores of the Black Sea by March.

He was equally convinced that the moment war was declared the British and French fleets in full-strength should support a 24-hour ultimatum to Italy demanding immediate demobilisation with war as the alternative.

At the time I disagreed with such a drastic proposal because I believed that even at so late an hour it was still possible to secure neutrality at a price, and I knew that hardly one in twenty of the people of Italy desired war.

What seemed to me essential was to save the face of the Fascist leaders by the offer of Tunis, Djibouti, certain parts of British West Africa and the freedom of the Suez Canal.

Coinciding with such an offer, it would have been necessary to make it clear that failure to accept it would involve the Italians in the risk of losing the whole of their African Empire not even excepting Eritrea, if Britain and France were victorious.

In the circumstances, we should probably have been wise to deliver that ultimatum because during the nine months in which the plans of Mussolini were maturing we did everything possible to convince the Italian leaders that the Germans were bound to win, and, what's more, win before summer was over.

Yet even when Italy did declare war upon France and Britain a safety secret ballot of the country would have revealed hardly more than 20 per cent. of the population as in favour of war.

Those eighty per cent. whose hearts were not in the war at first are not feeling any more enthusiastic about it now when they are faced with the certainty, whatever may happen in Europe, of a hostile America from Labrador to Patagonia.

Even the leaders are nervous that the Vichy Government will succeed in getting round the Germans and that Italy's African

Empire will be no more than dust and mirage when the victory has been won.

But what is our attitude toward the rival ambitions of France and Italy? The collapse of France has made an unequivocal statement imperative. Assuming that

Says Compton Mackenzie

our victory is decisive enough to dictate a peace, what future do we propose for Morocco, Algeria, Tunis and Syria?

Had any of the four declared for General de Gaulle we should make it clear now that if within a certain date they do not declare for him we shall regard with indifference the occupation of Morocco by Spain, of Tunis by Italy, and the division of Algeria between Spain and Italy.

We should proclaim our own intention to create an independent Syria with the same rights in it secured for ourselves as we have secured in Egypt by the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty.

On the other hand, we should notify the Italians that if after such a declaration about the Mediterranean future they persist in supposing that they must try to help the Germans beat us we shall not merely put every Italian out of Africa but hold them with the petard of ethnical origins by handing over Sicily to Greece.

During the last war there was a strong movement below the surface among Sicilians for incorporation in the British Empire, and I fancy if Hitler were dictating our strategy he would have achieved an occupation of Sicily by now.

Propaganda should be concentrated on Italy. Italy, not Germany, is the country in which to drop leaflets, but let those leaflets provide hard facts and figures, not vague threats and ideological abstractions.

Instead of deporting Italians to internment camps overseas, they should be sent back to Italy.

Instead of giving the B.B.C. announcers schoolgirl sarcasms about Italy, which, with two

honourable exceptions, they read out, some like school-mistresses, others like complacent monitors, they should be given hard facts and accurate figures and ordered to read them unemotionally.

I do not suggest this out of consideration for the feelings of Italians, but because I know Italians to be impressionable and intelligent people.

During the first nine months of the war our propaganda in Italy was pitiable. Most of it was done in Rome and Florence, where Fascism is strongest, and it consisted largely of academic lectures on such subjects as 17th-century English poetry!

There is a proverb in Italy which reflects something like a natural instinct:

Con tutto il mondo la guerra, Ma la pace coll' Inghilterra.
War with the whole world, but peace with England!

Mussolini has challenged the validity of that old rhyme, and, except among his ersatz legionaries, an apprehension of doom now pervades the imagination of the Italian people. It is on this apprehension that our propaganda must play continuously.

The collapse of France has made the problem of the Mediterranean so much simpler that even the doubtful 20 per cent. in Italy who wanted war must be cursing the misjudgment of Mussolini in emerging from non-belligerency.

Let us teach this ringmaster that he is no lion-tamer. Greece has flung open the cage and given us the chance to chase him round the arena.

I do not think I am being misled by a romantic fancy when I say that history will record October 20, 1940, as a crucial date in the annals of the human race. That ultimatum, flung back by the Greeks, has offered us an assurance of victory beyond the power of any orator or even poet to express in words.

I am not going to discuss now the reasons that led to Mussolini's fatal decision for I behold him as a madman on whose destruction the gods have decided, praying at the same time that our leaders will not fail to take the utmost advantage of this divine opportunity.

Once upon a time a colossus bestrode the harbour of Rhodes. It was held to be one of the seven wonders of the world, but an earthquake overthrew it and it has rusted away long ago beneath blue water.

Are we incapable of overthrowing a tinpot colossus like Mussolini? Is it to be seriously argued that we are incapable of assaulting the islands of the Dodecanese, the entire population of which cherishes a ferocious hatred of the Italians into whose hands, we repeat, we, the people of Great Britain, betrayed them in 1922?

We can atone for that betrayal now, and in wiping out such a blot upon our escutcheon we can make our strategic position more secure in regard to Syria. It is seldom granted to redeem dishonour with advantage.

No punishment is too severe for what Italy has done to Greece, but in justice to the Italian people let us give them the opportunity to repent.

We must bomb even Rome if necessary and of what it costs me to write that I envy no reader the mental experience. But we must shower leaflets as well as bombs. We must give the Italian people an opportunity to hear what will happen to them unless they exterminate their Blackshirts like cockroaches and renounce their betrayal of Europe by their bestial alliance with the barbarians.

And what gesture shall we make to Greece beyond aerial aid? Nearly 2,500 years ago the Athenian Army stood at Marathon to resist the might of Persia. They were joined out of all Greece by a thousand men from the little city of Plata which Athens had once befriended.

It looked at the time like certain death, but the Athenians, by employing the tactics which their descendants have just employed so successfully against a crack Italian division in the Pindus Mountains, scattering the Bersaglieri like barn-door fowls, won the most famous victory of recorded history.

Their gratitude to the Plataeans was acknowledged by formal grant of Athenian citizenship. A short time ago we offered union to France if France would resist. France whimpered her refusal.

Might we not now offer to Hellas, not as a bribe, but as a thanksgiving, the freedom of the British Commonwealth?



MEDALS ARE POOR COMPENSATION.
"Hardly one in twenty of the people of Italy desired war."

Italians Isolated By Revolt

The meaning of Britain's victory over the Italian forces in North Africa can be grasped fully only by examining the plight of the 200,000 or so Italian soldiers and many civilians who have been bottled up in Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Italian Somaliland, with a revolt of the natives in Ethiopia already getting out of control.

Italians in East Africa are separated from their Mother Country, being surrounded by British possessions and cut off by sea by the British fleet which patrols the Red Sea and Indian Ocean.

Aside from the radio, the only existing communication between these colonies and Italy is a weekly aeroplane, which flies, when possible, from Asmara in Eritrea to Cufra (Tripoli) and from there to Rome.

From the Kenyan frontier envoys of Haile Selassie have found easy entrance into Ethiopia, through dense tropical forests which are difficult for the Italians

jured, which provides pensions for all persons over the age of 15. Families with incomes of £400 a year or under also receive immediate compensation for loss of essential furniture and clothing. Others are covered by the Government's new insurance scheme. These wise and humane provisions have doubtless contributed to the peace of mind of those living in danger zones, thus helping the undaunted citizen of Britain to maintain a sturdy body as well as a sturdy outlook on events.

to patrol. These envoys have brought into Ethiopia news of the war and of the return of the Negus to Africa, which they have spread throughout the tribes.

First Rebellion

The first sign of rebellion was on Sept. 12. In the village of Cuollu, in the Province of Gimma, the native population had been gathered to witness the hanging of three of the Negus' envoys, captured as they crossed the frontier. The Italian garrison was composed of one company of Fascist blackshirts and two battalions of native troops. As the Resident of the village, an Italian officer, read the sentence, shots were heard in the near-by forest thus giving the signal of revolt.

The two native battalions, recently enrolled, deserted and joined the rebels. In a short time, the blackshirts were practically wiped out, their captain being taken prisoner and transferred across the frontier to the British in Kenya.

When the Italian military command heard of this incident, Eritrean troops were sent to punish the rebellion. These found the village deserted and had to be content with burning it.

In the meantime, Abebe Regai escaped from the Italians and joined the Negus. During the Italian campaign in Ethiopia Abebe Regai was commander of the Ethiopian garrison in Addis Ababa. After the Italian conquest he led successful uprisings of rebellion. He had surrendered to the Italian Government only last spring.

With the news of the flight of Abebe Regai, a flame of rebellion spread throughout the tribes in Ethiopia and the situation became more serious, for the chief has the reputation of being the most able

and successful leader among the Ethiopians.

Followers Organised

Abebe Regai has organised a group of followers in Scioa. In November he nearly destroyed several squadrons of native cavalry commanded by Colonel Morigi. Abebe Regai surprised them as they patrolled mountainous country in the Scioa region. After a day's fight, Colonel Morigi was obliged to retreat to Addis Ababa, having lost 320 Ascarri and six officers.

These two incidents together with news of the return of Haile Selassie, have resulted in continual desertions of native troops organised by the Italians. Eritrean and Somali troops have remained faithful to the Italians and it is especially among the Amharic, Scioan, and Galla soldiers, more recently enrolled, that desertions have occurred. Deserters have found refuge in the forests from which have spread the word of rebellion. The few battalions of these tribes that have not deserted have been disarmed by the Italians, who cannot trust them any longer.

Large trenches and barbed-wire enclosures have been built around the principal cities of Ethiopia: Addis Ababa, Dessye, Direddawa, Harar, and Gondar. Behind these constructions the garrisons and colonisers have enclosed themselves. Travel between cities is done mostly by air and by caravans of armed trucks, escorted by speed tanks.

Troops Recalled

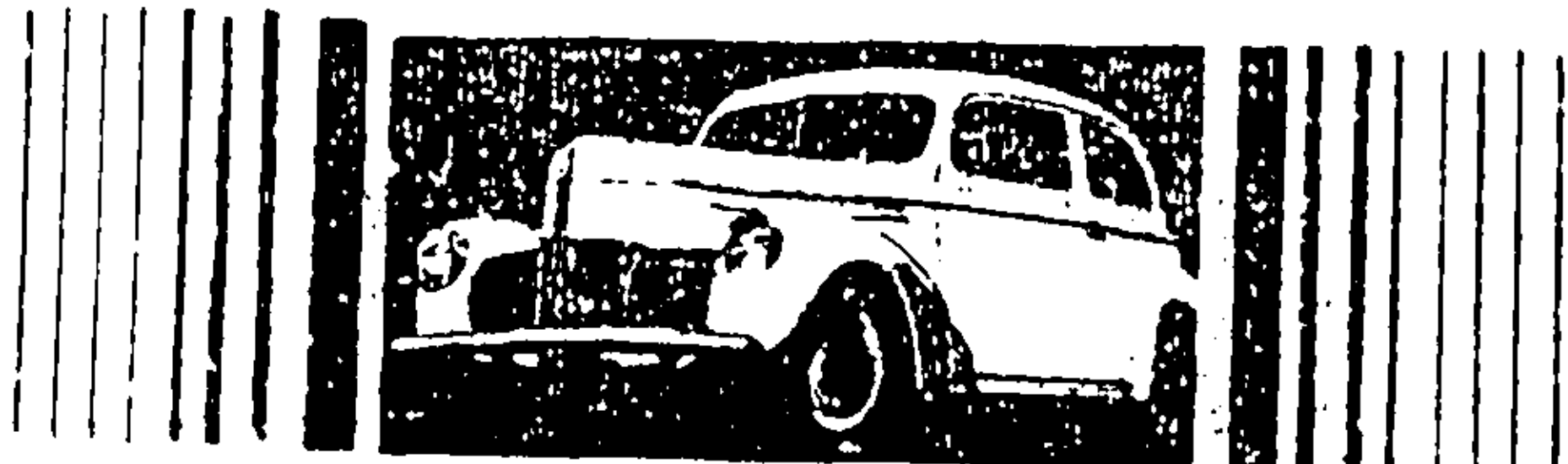
From Ethiopia's frontiers many troops sent to attempt an offensive thrust at Great Britain's colonies have been sent back to reinforce city garrisons.

After nightfall in the cities, even in Addis Ababa, no one is allowed to go out in the streets. Distrust reigns between the native population and the whites. Ras Ailu, considered faithful and friendly toward the Italians, is being watched.

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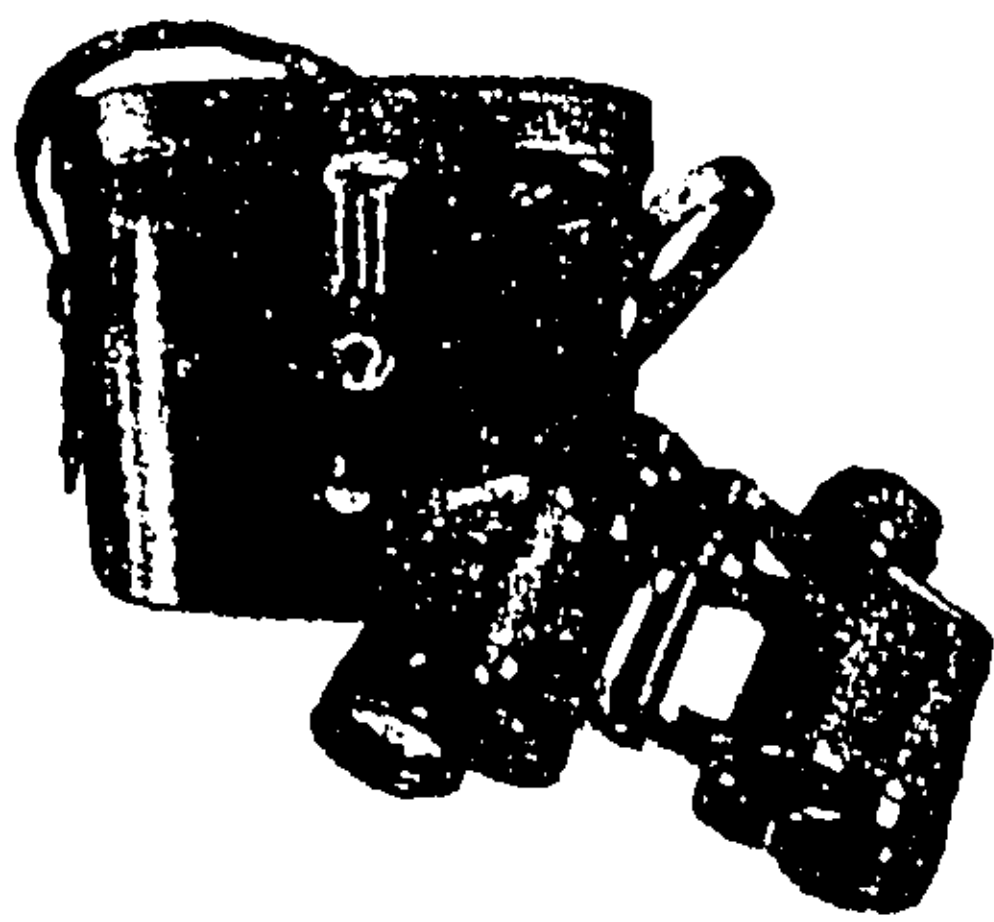
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MATSUOKA'S FIERY SPEECHES RECALLED

"PATRIOTIC AND obedient as the Japanese people are, discontent is undoubtedly rising amongst them," said Mr. O. M. Green, former editor of the North-China Daily News in a broadcast in London yesterday.

"In the past few days," said Mr. Green, "Japan and her intentions have taken the leading place in all newspapers. Almost daily Mr. Matsuoka has delivered some fiery speech, now threatening, now declaring that Britain and the United States are trying to encircle Japan, but always declaring that nothing will stop her from carrying out her aims.

FALL OF TEPELINI IMMINENT

The fall of Tepelini — strategic Albanian town 30 miles south-east of Valona — is expected at any moment following a further strengthening of the Greek encircling movement, cables Reuter's special correspondent on the Albanian frontier.

There is heavy Greek artillery fire on this sector.

Fighting in the Skumbi and Devoll River valleys has been more violent but Italian resistance to Greek pressure is very strong.

Near Podgradetz, on the eastern front, the Greeks have advanced over a mile with artillery support. — Reuter.

General Tsai Ting-kai, formerly of the famous late Nineteenth Route Army left for Chungking yesterday to rejoin China's armed forces in the resistance against the Japanese.

"It is well-known that Herr Hitler has been trying to induce Japan to take some action in the Far East at the same time that he starts his 'blitz' in Europe.

"It is also well-known that there is a section of the Japanese who are for falling in with this scheme.

"Japan also has need for the riches of Indo-China, the Dutch East Indies and Malaya, to solve her financial and economic difficulties which she has been experiencing since the start of her war in China. Every year Japan's budget has risen by 1,000 million yen and it is now nearly six times what it was before the war began."

Mr. Green said that taxation in Japan had now reached its limit and the standards of living of the Japanese people, always so very simple, have been cut down severely.

The fact also that the death penalty would now be imposed for publishing any diplomatic articles considered against the state was particularly significant.

Heavy Cost

"There is not the slightest sign that the war in China is going to end," continued Mr. Green. "It has cost the Japanese a million casualties and other difficulties.

"The plain common-sense view of the whole situation is that Japan is after further military adventures.

"There is reason to believe that there is an increasing number of sober-minded men who believe that it will be preferable to wait and see how Herr Hitler's plans turn out before plunging into a war at his behest."

WRIT AGAINST BISHOP

Members of the Cement Federation have issued a writ against the Bishop of Birmingham (Dr. Barnes) in respect of a speech he made at Birmingham recently.

During his speech the Bishop referred to production of air-raid shelters; and criticised what he described as "a cement ring."

LONDON GETS EARLY WARNING

London had a short alert after dark last night, the first to be heard at such an early hour for several nights.

An enemy plane which attacked the Dover balloon barrage yesterday was badly damaged by a Spitfire, with smoke pouring out.

An Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security communique last night said: "A few enemy aircraft, for the most part flying singly, have crossed our coasts during daylight to-day.

"Bombs were dropped at points in East Anglia and north Scotland. Damage caused was slight and casualties were very few." — Reuter.

GUNS DRAWN IN CHAMBER

REVOLVERS WERE BRANDISHED IN AN EXTENDED SESSION OF THE ARGENTINE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IN BUENOS AIRES YESTERDAY.

A Conservative deputy named Rocha and a Radical, da Monte, interrupted the debate by a lively exchange of blows. They had drawn their guns before they could be separated. — Reuter.

NOT GUILTY OF BEACH DEATH

Arthur George Collis, forty-one, a labourer, was found Not Guilty at Lewes (Sussex) Assizes of the manslaughter of James Savage, seventy-seven, at Brighton on August 2.

The prosecution said that Savage had accused Collis of watching girls undressing on the beach, and added: "If I were a younger man I would give you a good thrashing." Blows were struck, it was alleged.

Collis said that Savage fell in the act of hitting out.

SERVICE FOR LATE LORD LLOYD

The Prime Minister and Mrs. Churchill and members of the War Cabinet attended yesterday morning a memorial service for Lord Lloyd at Westminster Abbey. — British Wireless.

Country House Burned: Fire destroyed Hall Place, Leigh, Kent, the country mansion of Lord Hollenden, where Lord Lloyd was bombed recently.

Hospital Matrons for Shelters: The Ministry of Health has appointed two hospital matrons to help to supervise the nursing services in London shelters.

MEN'S WORK DEMANDED

Women should control the nation's food supplies and prices, and should be responsible for air raid shelters and evacuation.

Those demands are made by Mrs. Marion Coates Hansen, of Middlesbrough, who was a lieutenant of Sylvia and Christabel Pankhurst in the suffragette movement thirty years ago.

She said: "It is true the W.V.S. are doing a lot of work and doing it splendidly, but women are being used only to carry out the often badly planned ideas of the men.

"Women have brains — yet they ask us to knit. If I had my way I would organise machines for knitting, and use the hands and the brains of women to better purpose."

Mrs. Hansen wants every housewife to have a wage of at least 10s. or 15s. a week which must not be used for housekeeping.

Mrs. Coates Hansen is an active partner in her husband's business. "I sell cranes, chains, piston rings, and they tell me I am something of an expert on waterproofing shelters," she said.

"To do my two jobs as a housewife and a business woman, I have to get up at six o'clock. 'Oh, yes,' she added, 'I get a wages as a housewife, and I jolly well earn it.'"

CALLING ATTENTION TO —

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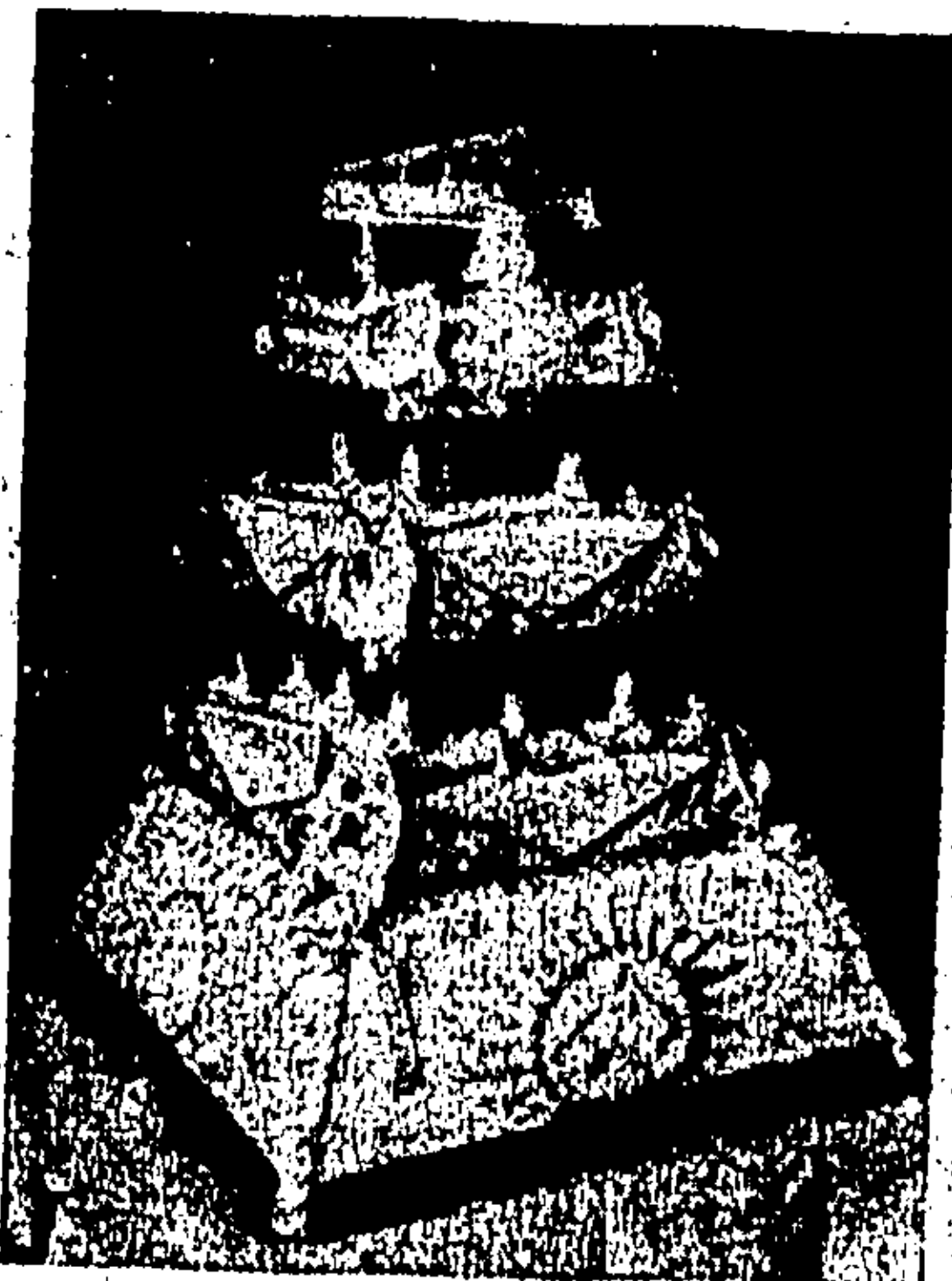
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ANY DESIGN & ANY WEIGHT TO 500 LBS.

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SHORT SHARP AIR FIGHT

An ME109 which dived to attack the Dover balloon barrage yesterday was itself dived on and attacked by a sergeant pilot of the Fighter Command, states the Air Ministry news service.

The sergeant pilot was on patrol in his Spitfire.

Describing the attack he said: "I was just below the cloud when the ME109 swept down from above me on to a barrage balloon."

He saw me and climbed, so I chased him and gave him a three or four seconds burst from astern.

He turned on his back rapidly losing height. Smoke was pouring from his when he disappeared into the clouds."

Since he did not see the enemy plane again the pilot only claimed he damaged the aircraft.

This sergeant pilot, who has eleven enemy planes to his credit recently borrowed his squadron leader's plane when his own Spitfire had been destroyed, went up in the borrowed plane and shot down an ME109. British Wireless.

MARRYS PEN FRIEND

One of England's youngest war brides was sixteen-year-old Kathleen Enid Adey of Stream Park, Kingswinford, Staffordshire, who was married by special licence at Dudley to a twenty-year-old bombardier she met as a pen-friend.

Kathleen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Adey, was sixteen in September, when she left high school.

She first came to know the bombardier while at school last January. He is Eric John Elms, second son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Elms, of Wilfred Road, Exeter, who joined the Royal Artillery in 1936. He was at Dunkirk.

While he was serving in France, Kathleen was asked to become a pen-friend to him.

BURMA RD. RAIDS

Mr. Lauchlin Currie is to fly to Chengtu to-day or to-morrow and may tour part of the Burma Road, Japanese are bombing the road to impress the United States that China's export route is liable to be closed, but so far no success has been shown.

Despite the persistent raids on the Kungkuo bridge of the Burma Road, traffic has been going on without interruption.

It was on Japanese reports that the Shanghai correspondent of the New York "Times" incorrectly stated that traffic on the Burma was at a standstill.—International News Agency.

CHINA PROVIDENT DIVIDEND

At the Board Meeting yesterday, it was decided, subject to audit, to make the following recommendations to the shareholders at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting:—To Pay a Dividend of 50 cents per share \$221,100.50; To Pay a Bonus of 25 cents per share \$110,553.25; To Pay a Bonus to Staff \$25,000.00; To Transfer to General Reserve \$50,000.00; and To Carry Forward to 1941 Account \$60,400.19.

MADAME CHIANG IN CHUNGKING

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") Madame Chiang Kai-shek returned to Chungking from Hong Kong yesterday morning after a sojourn in the British Colony for over three months. — Our Own Correspondent.

POSSESSED BY "MATRIMONY MANIA"

Jack Barrasford, aged forty-five, manager of a Carlisle cinema, was sentenced at the Old Bailey to twenty-one months' imprisonment for bigamously marrying two girls.

He was stated to have been convicted of bigamy in 1936.

The Recorder (Sir Gerald Dodson) told Barrasford that he seemed to have an "inordinate appetite" for matrimony. "Indeed," he added, "matrimony has become a mania."

CHUNGKING SNOW

After days of drought, snow began to fall in Chungking last night. Central News.

CHAMBER MOVING TO HONG KONG

IT IS REPORTED THAT THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN SHANGHAI, WHICH WAS RAIDED BY THE JAPANESE ON WEDNESDAY, WILL TRANSACT ALL ITS BUSINESS HEREAFTER IN HONG KONG, WHITHER ALL IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS AND ARCHIVES HAVE BEEN MOVED.

All certificates for Chinese-manufactured products which are absolutely required for shipments from Shanghai to Free China regions will be obtained in Hong Kong, it is added.

Meanwhile the new Chamber organised by the Nanking regime in Shanghai has begun operating. — Reuter.

RED CROSS FUND NOW £4,335,000

Including gifts of £800 from Lima and £750 from Chile the Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross and St. John Fund for Wounded has now reached £4,335,000. — British Wireless.

Col. de Wiart, V.C., who commanded the Allied Forces in Norway, is gazetted temporary major-general.

SOUND ARGUMENT!

AN OUNCE OF PROOF IS WORTH A TON OF TALK.

PINKETTES

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THE

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riding surface that's tough and long wearing. The sidewall areas are stronger, too, giving greater protection against bursts and bruises. It has a new Supertwist cord body. And — by a re-arrangement of the diamond shaped blocks, the All-Weather Tread has been further improved — for resistance to skids — for safe, sure-footed traction. Yet, when you fit a set of these handsome new DeLuxe All-Weather Tread tyres, you pay nothing extra — no more than you're accustomed to paying for good tyres.



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- NO SLIP ON CURVES
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THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

ANNUAL RACE MEETING, 1941

15th, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 22nd February

On SATURDAY, 15th, MONDAY, 17th, TUESDAY, 18th, and WEDNESDAY, 19th February, the first race will be run at 11.00 a.m. and the first race will be run at 11.30 a.m. On SATURDAY, 22nd February, the first race will be run at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m.

The fifth race will be after the fifth race on the first four days of the Meeting.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURES

Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10.00 per day including tax or \$40.00 including tax for the Meeting (ladies \$5.00 and \$20.00 respectively) are obtainable through the Secretary upon the written or personal introduction of a member, such member to be responsible for all chits, etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the Race Course.

The Secretary's Office, 1st floor, EXCHANGE BUILDING, (Tel. 27794) WILL CLOSE AT 9.45 a.m. ON THE FIRST FOUR DAYS, and at 11.45 a.m. ON THE FIFTH DAY.

A limited number of tiffls will be obtainable each day at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy, (Tel. 21920).

ON NO PRETEXT WILL CHILDREN BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$2.00 per day including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Soldiers and Sailors in uniform are admitted to the Public Enclosure at \$1.00 per day including tax.

Bookmakers, Tic Tac men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Tiffls will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Passes for Servants will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY on application to the Secretary, 1st floor, Exchange Building.

Any persons found loitering with Servants' passes in their possession will forfeit the same and will be removed from the Enclosure.

By Order,

C. B. BROWN,

Secretary.

Hong Kong, 9th February, 1941.

NOTICE

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS DURING THE RACES

1. It is hereby notified that on the days fixed for the Annual Race Meeting at Wong-Nei-Chong (February 15th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 22nd), the following Regulations, under Ordinance No. 2 of 1869, will be in force:—

- All vehicles going to the Races at Wong-Nei-Chong will proceed clockwise round Happy Valley via Wong-Nei-Chong Road to the entrance gates.
- Vehicles must proceed at a slow speed in the vicinity of the Race Course.
- Vehicles will be parked in the vicinity of the Race Course as directed by the Police on duty.
- Dogs are not allowed on or near the Race Course. Any dog found straying on or near the Race Course is liable to be destroyed.

Note.—Kennedy Road will be open to light motor traffic from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

11. Extra Race Meeting during the year 1941—On days fixed for Extra Race Meetings.

One way traffic will be enforced in Wong-Nei-Chong Road. Kennedy Road will not be open to motor traffic.

PARKING OF CARS AT THE RACE COURSE

- The Stand at the public entrance is reserved for Jockey Club Stewards and Officials only.
- Morrison Hill parking ground opposite Civil Service Club and Village Road reserved for Private Cars.
- Ventris Road reserved for Public Cars.

C. G. PERDUE,

Ag. Commissioner of Police, Hong Kong, 14th February, 1941

BANK HOLIDAYS

The EXCHANGE BANKS will OPEN at 9.30 A.M. and will CLOSE at 12 Noon for the Transaction of Exchange Business on MONDAY, and TUESDAY, the 17th and 18th February, (Race Meeting).

Hong Kong, 14th Feb., 1941.

THE "STAR" FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED

Notice to Shareholders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FORTY-THIRD ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF THIS COMPANY will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., on FRIDAY, the 28th February, 1941, at 11.00 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1940.

The Register of Shares of the Company will be CLOSED from Wednesday, the 14th February, 1941, to Friday, the 28th February, 1941, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

C. M. MANNERS,

Secretary & Manager.

Hong Kong, 12th Feb., 1941.

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at the Head Office of the Corporation, No. 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, on WEDNESDAY, the 26th February, 1941, at Noon for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1940.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be closed from Thursday, the 13th February to Wednesday, the 26th February, 1941 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

V. M. GRAYBURN,

Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, 7th February, 1941.

BRIDGE NOTES

CRIME DOESN'T PAY! NO. 30

By The Four Aces

The sleuths of our crime series may have a little trouble with today's study in Bridge criminology:

South, Dealer
East-West vulnerable
North-South part score 30

♠ K 9
♥ A Q 10 5
♦ Q 10 8 4
♣ A J 9

♠ J 10 5
♥ 2
♦ J 5
♣ 10 7 6 5

♠ 6 2
♥ K 9 8 7
♦ 4 3
♣ K 7 6 3

♠ A Q 8 7 4 3
♥ J 6
♦ A 9 2
♣ Q 8

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2NT	3♥
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West opened the deuce of hearts, dummy winning with the Ace. After drawing three rounds of trumps, South led the Jack of hearts.

East took his King and returned a heart for lack of anything more promising. South discarded two diamonds, returned to his hand via the diamond Ace, and led the Queen of clubs. When this was finessed, East won his blank King but South won the rest, making his contract with two overtricks.

The evidence is all in, and you should be aware of the heinous crime that was committed. See if you can spot the crime and the criminal before you read on.

South was the criminal, and his crime occurred during the bidding. He should have passed East's horrible vulnerable bid of three hearts to North; and North would have doubled with great gusto. Correct defence would then have held East to three tricks, for a penalty of 1,700 points!

South attempted to justify his criminal bid of three spades by pointing out that he had a good rebiddable spade suit and that the bid was enough for game. Furthermore, he added, North might be "stuck" for a bid if unable to double three hearts. North justly replied that he couldn't have a hand which was worth two no-trump but not worth either a double of three hearts or some rebid. This fact that South's bid was enough for game was absolutely irrelevant. The penalty double was worth four times as much as the game!

Yesterday you were Oswald Jacoby's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held:

♠ J 3
♥ K J 5
♦ K Q 4 2
♣ K J 7 3

The bidding:

You	Malier	Jacoby	Rebenken
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
(?)			

ANSWER: Bid two diamonds. If your partner has a legitimate opening bid (as is likely) he will rebid; and you can then make a strong bid. It is wise to allow leeway to partner's third-hand bid, since it may not be altogether sound.

Score 100% for two diamonds; 90% for two clubs; 80% for two no-trump; 0 for any other bid.

Question No. 639

To-day you are the dealer and hold the following hand:

♠ K Q J 10 5
♥ K 8 5 3
♦ Q J 7
♣ 4

What do you bid? (Answer

To-morrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

SHOT WIFE—DIED IN REMORSE

An inquest jury decided that an R.N.R. commander shot his wife dead with a revolver he thought was unloaded, and then killed himself with the revolver through remorse.

Evidence was given that he drank excessively and had fits of temper during which he struck his wife.

The inquest was on Commander Wilfred Stanfield, R.N.R., aged forty-seven, and his wife, Louise, aged forty-three, who were shot in their home in Wilton-crescent Shirley, Southampton. The verdicts were Manslaughter and Suicide.

A friend, Mrs. Cissie Julia Blake, said that she was called to the house by Mrs. Stanfield, Commander Stanfield was standing before the fire, the knuckle of one of his hands was injured. His wife's mouth was bleeding.

"I Will"

Mrs. Stanfield said: "Look what he has done. He says he will shoot me." Commander Stanfield said: "I will."

Mrs. Blake said she told the commander not to be foolish, but he went upstairs and rummaged in drawers.

She told Mrs. Stanfield to come to her house.

"I followed her into the hall and saw her on the stairs," said Mrs. Blake. "I heard her cry, 'Oh, Wilf.' She turned and I opened the front door to run out. I heard a shot and a fall, and then a second shot and a thud."

A police officer suggested that Commander Stanfield might have "broken" his revolver to unload it, but that only four of the cartridges might have been ejected, leaving two in the chamber without his knowledge.

The commander was a former chief officer of the liner Empress of Britain.

WARN HUNS TO IMPROVE CAMPS

A major general wants Britain to warn Germany that unless conditions are improved in camps for prisoners of war, German captives in England will be treated in the same way.

He is Sir Alfred Knox, Conservative M.P. for Wycombe.

Sir Alfred will ask Mr. Eden, the War Minister, if he knows that British prisoners in Oflag, VII C (a notorious internment camp) are sleeping twenty-seven in a room 16 to 17 ft. square.



After a hard day at work the father who must play Santa Claus wishes the masquerade would end.

CHAMBERLAIN'S REASON FOR BECOMING M.P.

The desire to improve conditions of life for the people was the reason why the late Mr. Neville Chamberlain entered Parliament.

This was stated in a letter which Mrs. Chamberlain sent to the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor W. Martineau, thanking him for a message of condolence sent on behalf of the City Council and people of Birmingham on the death of her husband.

"He always looked back to his years on the Council as some of the happiest in his life," she wrote. "I remember that the two committees on which he elected to serve when he first entered the Council were those then known as the Health and Housing Committee and the Town Planning Committee."

"It was the experience and insight gained on those committees which strengthened his passionate desire to improve the conditions of life for the people."

"It was this desire which caused him to enter Parliament and subsequently to devote himself to his work as Minister of Health."

Airmen Refused Accommodation.—Richard Johnston Ashton, and his wife, Annie Berenice Ashton proprietors of the Viaduct Hotel, Carlisle, were fined £3 at Carlisle for refusing accommodation to four airmen who were travelling North.

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



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LOCAL SHARES

H.K. GOVT. LOANS
 4% Loan 96 b.
 3½% Loan (1934) 94 b.
 3½% Loan (1940) 93½ b.

BANKS
 Hong Kong Bank \$1400 s.
 Bank of East Asia \$76 b.

INSURANCES
 Union Ins. \$407½ b.
 H.K. Fire Ins. \$187½ b.

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, ETC.
 H.K. Docks (Old) \$17 80 sa.
 Providents \$5.95 b. \$5¼/85 sa.
LANDS, HOTELS & BLDGS.
 H.K. Lands \$34¼ s.
 H.K. Lands 4% Debentures \$97½ b.
 Humphreys \$7.05 sa.
 H.K. Realities \$3¼ s.

PUBLIC UTILITIES
 H.K. Tramways \$18 s.
 Star Ferries \$56½ b.
 China Lights (Old) \$6 b.
 H.K. Electric (Old) \$40 sa.
 Sandakan Lights \$12 sa.
 Telephones (Old) \$24½ sa.

INDUSTRIALS
 Cements \$17½ b. \$17½ sa.
 H.K. Ropes \$8¼ sa.

STORES, &c.
 Watsons \$11 b. \$11 05 s. \$11 sa.

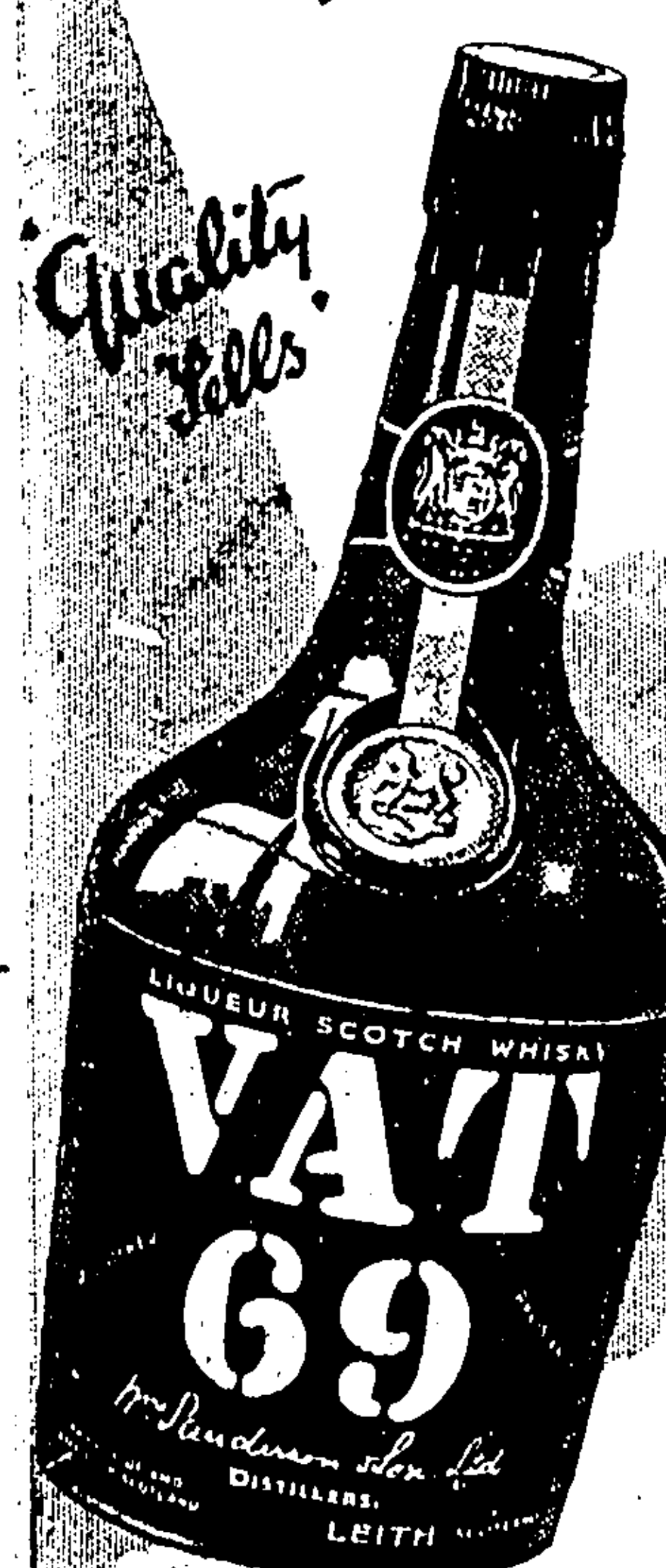
LAST DAY'S SALES
 55 H.K. Banks a \$1415
 100 Docks (Old) a \$17 80
 1,500 Providents a \$5¼
 3,000 Providents a \$5 80
 500 Cements a \$17½
 100 Sand. Lights a \$12
 333 Humphreys a \$7.05 X D
 250 Electrics (Old) a \$40
 200 Ropes a \$8¼

City Sheriff Killed.—Mr. G. Percy Trentham, building contractor and engineer, who was elected a sheriff of the City of London at the end of June, was killed in a recent air raid. Mr. Trentham was a liveryman of five City companies.



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Strike Spreads To S'hai's Red Light Zone

SHANGHAI'S FAMED "red-light district" in the vicinity of Yu Ya Ching and Foochow Roads faces a black-out unless the 350-odd sing-song house operators succeed in reaching an agreement with their 1,500 employees over the salary question.

The dispute brewing for nearly a week came to a head recently when a representative of the operators told the employers that their demand for a 100 per cent pay increase had been rejected "without reservation."

Among workers employed by sing-song houses are a number of mesha pullers whose duty it is to chauffeur the entertainers to their "clients", personal maids of the entertainers, cooks and servants of the houses.

In rejecting the workers' demands, the employers pointed out that most of the earnings come from tips given them by customers. Ever since the sing-song house became an established institution as a place of entertainment it was said, workers employed at the houses are either not paid a regular monthly salary at all or are paid only nominal wages.

The workers concerned were reported undecided whether they would immediately go on strike. Should a strike be declared, the most hard-hit parties will be restaurants and hotels in the downtown district where fun-makers gather to be entertained by the sing-song girls.

SCOTS WIN BOXING

The Royal Scots proved much too good for Middlesex last night in the finals of the army novices' boxing tournament and they won by 28 points to 16, scoring five knockouts, three technical knockouts and four victories on points.

Results:
 Bantamweight: Pte. Ellis (Scots) beat Pte. Anderson.
 Featherweight: Pte. Percy (Middlesex) beat Pte. Woodrow, Pte. Hanshaw (Middlesex) beat Pte. Ritchie.
 Lightweight: Pte. Cooke (Scots) beat Pte. Craffon, technical knockout, Pte. Laws (Scots) beat L/Cpl. Hill, knockout, Pte. McCall (Scots) beat Pte. Lanagan.

Welterweight:—L/Cpl. Hunter (Scots) beat Pte. Coleman, technical knockout, Pte. Meikle (Scots) beat Pte. Nash, knockout, Pte. Black (Scots) beat Pte. Toomey, technical knockout.
Middleweight:—L/Cpl. Chalmers (Scots) beat Pte. Burdge, knockout, Pte. Greig (Scots) beat L/Cpl. Munchenbach, knockout, Pte. Auld (Scots) beat Pte. Hogan, knockout.

Light-Heavyweight:—Pte. Wilson (Scots) beat Pte. Cooper.
Heavyweight:—Lieut. Hunter (Scots) walkover.

Welterweight:—Pte. Urquhart (Scots) beat Pte. Byford.

£2,500 IN SHELTER

When Stanley Thomas Hammond, 23, a soldier, was charged at Tottenham with stealing £2,500 from Mrs. Annie Young, a widow, Newton Road, Tottenham, Mrs. Young said the money was part of £3,000, her life savings, which it was her practice to take with her to a public air-raid shelter every night.

Hammond, a friend of her son, used to return home with her in the early hours, and on Oct. 22, when he did so, she put the attaché case containing the money in a back room and left the house. On her return the £2,500 was missing. Hammond was committed for trial.

SLACK DAY ON STOCK EXCHANGE

The London Stock Exchange yesterday was dull with very small business pending Balkan developments but there was no selling. Gilt-edged were inclined to be heavy, while Indian bonds met with profit-taking. Industrial shares on some provincial selling. Oils also tended lower while Kaffirs were barely steady. Japanese bonds receded 30/10. Wall Street was quiet. — Reuter.

ROYALS WITHOUT FORD

By "Scrum-Half"

Royal Scots are without Ford, their brilliant hooker, for the Seven-A-Side Rugby Tournament, which opens on the Navy ground, Causeway Bay, to-morrow at 2.30 p.m.

Their teams are as follows:
 "A": Pte. Parnaby, Capt. Douglas (capt) and Capt. Patterson, Sgt. Nealon, 2/Lt. Miller, L/Cpl. Sutherland and 2/Lt. Pinkerton.
 Reserve: L/Cpl. Gracie.
 "B": Lt. Gibson (capt), Pte. Bateman and Pte. Farley, Sgt. Stevenson, 2/Lt. Fergus, 2/Lt. Hunter and L/Cpl. Durie.
 Reserve: L/Cpl. Combe.

Two Walk-Over

A.S.C. and 8th Heavy "C" have withdrawn from the Tournament, and as a result Butterfield and Swire and Tamar and Small Ships "A", their competitors, will meet in a friendly game at the conclusion of to-morrow's programme.

TEAMS FOR VOLUNTEER CRICKET WEEK

The following teams have been selected to represent Volunteers in their annual cricket week which starts on Monday.

MONDAY (v H.K.C.C. at Chater Road, 2 p.m.): E. C. Fincher (Capt.), K. M. Baxter, R. T. Broadbridge, W. S. Gegg, G. N. Gosano, J. M. Gosano, L. G. Gosano, T. A. Madar, P. M. N. da Silva, A. Zimmermann and E. Zimmermann.
TUESDAY (v K.C.C. at Cox's Road, 2 p.m.): H. Owen Hughes (Capt.), G. G. Aitkenhead, D. G. Day, G. N. Gosano, L. G. Gosano, R. H. Griffiths, J. L. Hsley, D. O. Parsons, L. T. Ride, P. M. N. da Silva and E. Zimmermann.
 Twelfth Man: A. E. Perry.

WEDNESDAY (Officers and Sergeants v Other Banks at H.K.C.C., 2 p.m.):
 Officers and Sergeants:—H. Owen Hughes (Capt.), D. J. N. Anderson, J. Barrow, A. E. Perry, J. E. Potter, L. T. Ride, A. M. Rodrigues, I. P. Tamworth, R. D. Walker, G. S. Winch and E. Zimmermann.
 Other Banks:—R. H. Griffiths (Capt.), K. M. Baxter, D. I. Bosenquet, E. F. Fincher, W. S. Gegg, L. G. Gosano, D. Hung, D. O. Parsons, C. M. Stark, A. Zimmermann and F. R. Zimmermann.

LOCAL POLO

The first game in an American Polo tournament for the "Lady Stubbs Cup" was played at Boundary Street on Wednesday, when "A" team (Capt. T. W. Chattey, Col. D. Way, Major W. Morgan and Lieut. Hancock) beat "B" team (Capt. Forrester, Mr. Bousfield, Capt. W. H. Chattey and Capt. Atkinson) by six goals to four.

To-day, weather permitting, two games will be played, "A" versus "D" at 4.15 p.m. and "B" versus "C" at 5.15 p.m.

The "B" and "D" teams are as follows:
 "B":—Capt. Monroe, Major Hunt, Mr. Stanton and Mr. Lewis.
 "D":—Lieut. Feilden, Major Penfold, Major Trevor and Captain Guest.

JUNIOR CHESS TITLE

Three matches in the first round of the junior chess championship were held yesterday at the Peninsula Hotel when W. Lee beat A. Morton; V. V. Kolatchoff beat J. H. d'Almeida and J. Grefalda beat R. C. Gardner.
 In the senior tournament, G. S. Coxhead beat D. E. de Carvalho, former champion.

INTERPORT HOCKEY PRACTICE

By "Sportshawk"

The Colony Interport Probables were fully extended by the Combined Police yesterday at King's Park in a practice hockey game which resulted in a goalless draw.

The Probables missed the services of 2/Lt. Cole on the right-wing, which position was taken over by H. L. Ozorio, while the Police were at full strength, who played for the Probables.

The game was played at a fast pace and on some occasions good movements were witnessed.

Benwell showed his usual steady form between the sticks, especially in the first half, when he spoiled several Police raids with his timely interceptions.

J. Gonsalves was the better of the two Probables backs, although he was guilty in some instances of mis-hitting; he covered Bond, who was shaky, well.

Reed At His Best

The pivot, W. A. Reed, was at his best, while R. Marques did well at right-half.

Among the forwards, E. Fowler and T. Whitley fully vindicated their selection. They combined very well, particularly in the second half.

Brown, on the left-wing, though not impressive, showed a good turn of speed and Rothwell, the Police right-half, was unable to check him.

For Police, Man Singh was safe in defence, Gough, who worked very hard throughout, distinguished himself at the pivotal position, while Parker and Howlett were impressive in the attack.

On the whole, the Police displayed better combination than the Probables, who were especially weak in taking short-corners.

PROBABLES:—Benwell; Bond and J. Gonsalves; R. Marques; W. A. Reed and N. Whitley; H. L. Ozorio, T. Whitley, G. Singh, E. Fowler and Brown.

POLICE:—Nalwant Singh; Man Singh and Blackburn; Rothwell, Gough and Hayward; Teja Singh, Howlett, Jesbir Singh, Parker and Narwant Singh.

KING'S COLLEGE SPORTS

The eleventh annual athletic meeting of King's College will be held on the South China track at Caroline Hill on February 28, commencing at 1.30 p.m. Mrs. J. J. Ferguson will present the prizes.

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12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Interces-

sion.

12.30 p.m.—Songs by Leslie Hutchinson

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Says My Heart (film 'Cocoanut

Grove'); Two Bouquets (film

'Kickin' the Moon Around'); I Won't

Tell A Soul (Parker-Charles).

12.40 p.m.—Film Selections.

1.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Wea-

ther Report.

1.03 p.m.—Compositions of Mozart.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press. Wea-

ther Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Variety.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

6.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quota-

tions.

6.32 p.m.—The Mills Brothers, Jose-

phine Baker and Val Rosing in

Variety.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of

the Hour.

7.30 p.m.—A Schubert Programme.

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather

Report and Announcements.

8.03 p.m.—An hour of Popular Classics.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News &

News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: 'Books

and People'.

9.45 p.m.—Max Miller in the Theatre.

10.06 p.m.—Musical Comedy Selections.

The Vagabond King—Selection

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Music In The Air—Vocal Gems (Ham-

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10.30 p.m.—Dance Music by Ambrose

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11.00 p.m.—Close down.



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PROSPECTS FOR FIRST DAY OF ANNUAL MEETING DISCUSSED

Lovelylight Should Win The Maiden Stakes

Promise of Charlesber, Oolong, Velvetlight And Iron Beauty

By "Rapiet"

THE STAGE IS ALL SET FOR THE 1941 ANNUAL RACING CARNIVAL UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, WHICH STARTS AT 11.00 A.M. TO-MORROW.

Racing in the Colony has gradually been attracting more and more attention, and interest this year has been greatly enhanced by the phenomenal demand for tickets in connection with the Special Dollar Sweep, which will be decided on the Rooty-Hill Derby.

The programme for to-morrow will consist of 12 events, most interesting of which should be the Challenge Cup, the Maidens, the three sections of the Sydney Maiden Stakes and Trial Plate.

RACE NO. 1: CHALLENGE CUP 1-3/4 MILES

The curtain will rise on this long-distance event, confined to China Ponies. In the corresponding race last year there was a brilliant finish, Navylight, ably ridden by Mr. "Boojie" Moller, just managing to snatch a victory from Confusion Bay (Mr. Black) by a neck.

To-morrow, the Cire Stable, represented by Navylight, will make an effort to win this Cup outright. This pony's chances, however, seem rather remote as it will have to reckon with Burford (Mr. S. W. Tang) and Confusion Bay (Mr. H. C. Pih).

On the strength of its win in the Hong Kong Autumn Champions (1-1/4 miles) in record time, Confusion Bay would seem to be the logical choice, as it is fighting fit at the moment but from my observations Burford has shown some improvement in form, and I shall not be surprised if it avenges its defeat at the hands of Confusion Bay.

This gruelling race should be between Confusion Bay and Burford, with Navylight a possible for a place. In any event it should be a grand race.

RACE NO. 2: SYDNEY MAIDEN STAKES (FIRST SECTION) 6 FURLONGS

This race will be contested by the first batch of new Australian Subscription Griffins, and from among the ponies entered I think the following are about the best, after having seen them in training for some time past:

Endeavour (Mr. Wei).
Royal Sovereign (Mr. Proulx).
Strathalbyn (Mr. Black).
Sydney Diamond (Mr. Chang).
United Express (Mr. Ip Kui Ying).

Endeavour has already established itself as a firm favourite for the Rooty-Hill Derby, and if it strips for this event, it should win comfortably. It is possible, however, that it may be reserved for the Australian Valley Stakes later in the day as the mile distance is more to its liking.

If Endeavour does not accept here, I would place Sydney Diamond as the next best, with United Express as the potential challenger, in view of its recent run over the mile in 1.55.1, with a last quarter of 29.

This pony is essentially a sprinter, and if it does not win here it should be borne in mind for future races over shorter distances.

Strathalbyn is another sprinter and, with Mr. Black on top, it will have to be considered a possible winner. Royal Sovereign has not shown what it is actually capable of doing; in training it completed the mile in 2.24.4 with a last quarter of 26.4. It may turn out to be a good short distance pony, and with Mr. Proulx on top it should not be far away at the finish. However, taking everything into consideration, I nominate Endeavour (if started) to win, with Sydney Diamond, United Express and Strathalbyn following in the order named.

RACE NO. 3: AUSTRAL VALLEY STAKES: ONE MILE

This race will serve to introduce the new Australian Griffins

to the racing public, and, based on training performances, I think the winner will come from one of the following:

Colooma (Mr. Black).
Distant View (Mr. Pih).
First Love (Mr. S. C. Liang).
King's Welcome (Mr. Needa).
With Distant View, Mr. Pih has a great opportunity of winning this race, but he may expect strong opposition from either King's Welcome or Colooma, both of which are capable of giving Distant View a good fight.

First Love is also considered good enough to extend those named above, and it may cause an upset here.

I expect to see the finish in the following order:—Distant View, King's Welcome and Colooma.

RACE NO. 4: SYDNEY MAIDEN STAKES (SECOND SECTION)

In this race for new Australian Subscription Griffins, the following should attract the most attention:

Black Seal (Mr. Chao).
Castle Hill (Mr. Black).
Santa-Anita (Mr. Liang).
Tobaccochip (Mr. P. P. Botelho).
Zadderday (Mr. Needa).

Santa-Anita is greatly fancied in view of its convincing gallop over the Champions distance in 2.26.3, but on the other hand Black Seal is also known to have done a good gallop over the Derby Distance. Castle Hill should also have something to say at the finish, while Tobaccochip and Zadderday are quite fast over sprint distances.

I nominate Santa-Anita to win, with Black Seal second and Castle Hill third.

RACE NO. 5: MAIDEN STAKES SIX FURLONGS

The Maiden Stakes last year was won by the Cire Stable, whose representative Spiclight covered the six furlongs in record time. I am afraid that this year's finish will be another tame affair.

With the exception of Oolong, belonging to T. K. Li, I fail to see how any of the other ponies can possibly extend Lovelylight (Mr. Noodt) and Glossylight (Mr. Moller), both from the Cire Stable. It is possible that Oolong will be reserved for the Trial Plate, in which event Lovelylight and Glossylight are likely to come in first and second, with Eve of Grandeur and Odeon fighting out the third place.

RACE NO. 6: AUSTRAL MAIDEN STAKES: SIX FURLONGS

This is a sprint event for the new Australian Griffins, and out of the 36 ponies drawn for in this section, I do not think we need look further than the following for the eventual winner:

Canberra (Mr. Black).
Hascossay (Mr. Davis).
Fleetwing (Mr. Poy).
National Reform (Mr. Tao).
Mountain View (Mr. Pih).

Canberra is regarded in certain quarters as the likely winner, and I rather like it as it has the stamp of a good pony.

It may, however, meet with stern opposition from Hascossay, which is speedy over this distance.

Much as I like Fleetwing and Mountain View, I do not think they will be fast enough here, but bear them in mind for the longer races.

National Reform is full of life, and once on the move it will not be easy to overtake.

My nominations, accordingly, are Canberra, Hascossay and National Reform.

RACE NO. 7: CORAL HANDICAP: ONE MILE

This is the first leg of the "Daily Double", confined to Australian Subscription griffins of previous years. It looks as if Sapper should win here, with Far View furnishing the opposition. Ridden by Mr. Davis, Sapper won the Queensland Autumn Champions at the Thirteenth Extra Race Meeting, and as it is in fine shape at the moment, I recommend it to win.

Far View, although running unplaced in the Fremantle St. Leger at the Tenth Extra Race Meeting, should come in second as it is also in good condition, while the third place should be filled by Baffin Bay (Mr. Needa).

RACE NO. 8: AUSTRAL TRIAL PLATE: 1-1/4 MILES

This race will, no doubt, serve as a guide towards picking the ultimate winner of the Austral Derby, and, judging from the entries, I should not be far wrong in stating that the race will be fought out between the following:

Marsh Warbler (Mr. Black).
Nomine Poenae (Mr. Chao).
Prairie View (Mr. Pih).

Marsh Warbler has been consistently trained for this distance, and as it has invariably returned good times, it is strongly fancied to win. I think it will meet with strong opposition from Prairie View, for although this pony has not been much in the limelight over this distance, it is quite capable of winning.

Nomine Poenae has been whispered as the "dark horse" in this race, and for those who are prepared to take the risk, a bet each way may turn out to be profitable. I also recommend The Nineteenth Hole for consideration.

RACE NO. 9: SYDNEY MAIDEN

THE BIG SWEEP

Sales in the Big Sweep organised by Hong Kong Jockey Club on the Rooty-Hill Derby, at 9.30 this morning had reached 854,000 and it is fairly safe to say the first prize will be worth over \$400,000.

STAKES (THIRD SECTION): SIX FURLONGS

This is another sprint event for the third section of the new Australian Subs., and, on their training form, I am sure the following will be prominent at the finish:—

Bendemeer.
Manhattan (Mr. Hearne).
National Welfare (Mr. Tao).
Snow White (Mr. Pih).
Twinkling Star (Mr. Craven).
Vitamin M (Mr. Black).

I consider Vitamin M to be the best here, and in my estimation it should win comfortably, with Manhattan and National Welfare fighting it out for the other places.

I should state, however, that Bendemeer, if given a good jockey, will be dangerous and for those who are looking for a long shot I recommend this pony.

Snow White and Twinkling Star are also good over this distance.

This is the second leg of the "Daily Double".

RACE NO. 10: TRIAL PLATE 1-1/4 MILES

Apart from Lovelylight, which is going out in the Maidens instead of this event, the result of this race should give an indication regarding the likely winner of the Hong Kong Derby.

The following will probably face the starter:—

Charlesber (Mr. Chao).
Eve of Grandeur (Mr. Davis).
Lovely View (Mr. Pih).
Oolong (Mr. Needa).
Rosylight (Mr. Moller).
Velvetlight (Mr. Noodt).
Iron Beauty (Mr. Wei).

I do not think we need look further than Charlesber, Oolong, Velvetlight and Iron Beauty for the eventual winner. Charlesber has been properly tuned up for this meeting, having had the benefit of a year's training, and I feel it will have to be seriously considered for the Derby.

Oolong has been talked about as a pony likely to win the Blue Riband; I like the way it moves, while Velvetlight has been improving since its last gallop with

its stablemate on January 22, over the Derby distance in 3.35 with a last quarter of 30.1. However, there was something in its finish which did not appeal to me.

Iron Beauty has not had a decent gallop so far, but judging from the way it moved it appears to have talent which has not yet been properly developed.

RACE NO. 11: BENDIGO HANDICAP: FROM THE TWO MILE POST ONCE ROUND AND IN

This race is confined to "B" Class, Australian Subscription griffins and judging from the entries, I think the finish will be fought out between the following ponies:—

Criffel (Mr. Black).
Fair Chance (Mr. Wei).
Rowan (Mr. Hearne).
Springhurst (Mr. Poy).
Vixen Tor (Mr. Noodt).

Criffel, which won the Dilatory Handicap at the 13th Extra Meeting over the mile, is the best recommendation for a win here. I expect it to receive stiff opposition from Vixen Tor, which it beat by a short head in the race referred to above. Vixen Tor is in fine condition at the moment.

Fair Chance, with a change of jockey in Mr. Wei, should be borne in mind, and Rowan and Springhurst have shown improvement and should not be disregarded.

RACE NO. 12: AUSTRALIAN VALLEY STAKES: ONE MILE

The last race of the day will be contested by Australian Subscription ponies of 1941. I need only refer to ponies that have done well in morning training, and I believe that the winner will come from one of the following, omitting probable starters in previous races:—

A Surprising Time (Mr. Hobden).
Buckfastleigh (Mr. Woo).
Endeavour (Mr. Wei).
King's Flight (Mr. Needa).
Bendigo (Mr. Chao).
Seal River (Mr. Black).

Endeavour is easily the best of this bunch, and I have no doubt that it will win.

A Surprising Time has done well in training, when it was clocked over the Champions distance in 2.28.1 and, judging from that performance, it should take second place, leaving King's Flight and Seal River to fight out the third place.

For an outsider I recommend Buckfastleigh, which has always impressed me with its fine movement.



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M. P. Young and Y. P. Young (University "B")	6	1	5
C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y")	9	4	5
C. Au and F. Koh (Chinese "Y")	6	2	4
J. J. Remedios and H. F. Goncalves (Recreio)	9	5	4
C. K. Lee and S. L. Yung (University "B")	3	0	3
T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung (University "B")	6	3	3
M. A. Oliveira and A. M. Rodrigues (Recreio)	9	6	3
F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y")	12	9	3
P. H. Hon and H. F. Chiu (University "A")	3	1	2
C. K. Cheuk and K. B. Lin (University "B")	3	1	2
S. Amplanavar and A. P. Lee (University "B")	3	1	2
M. P. Young and Y. P. Young (University "A")	3	1	2
P. H. Wong and P. C. Lau (Chinese "Y")	6	4	2
L. A. Carvalho and A. M. Silva (Recreio)	9	7	2

"B" Division

	P	L	W
A. L. Fisher and P. Wynter-Blyth (K.C.C.)	18	2	16
E. P. Fincher and H. Kew (St. Andrew's)	15	2	13
N. L. Smith and P. Wilson (St. John's)	12	0	12
S. P. Chan and K. J. Attwell (King's)	12	0	12
C. F. Chiu and S. C. Liang (Chung Wah)	12	2	10
H. Eardley and D. Kwok (St. John's)	9	0	9
W. Gillies and L. Gordon (Police)	18	9	9
W. H. Choy and W. C. Choy (Chung Wah)	9	1	8
P. C. Leung and K. F. Chiu (Chung Wah)	12	4	8
Peter Lo and J. Tsang (Kowloon Tong)	15	7	8
K. L. Lui and W. C. Chung (King's)	9	2	7
D. M. Xavier and S. A. Rumi-Jahn (V.R.C.)	12	5	7
T. Lam and K. H. Lo (King's)	15	8	7
J. L. Anderson and H. S. Jones (K.C.C.)	15	8	7
A. E. Brown and S. A. Gray (St. Andrew's)	9	3	6
P. A. Yvanovich and P. P. Botelho (Recreio)	6	1	5
M. M. Davies and B. Gillespie (St. Andrew's)	9	4	5
R. Maynard and G. S. Ladd (St. John's)	15	10	5
A. E. Xavier and A. E. Noronha (Recreio)	6	2	4
C. C. Pereira and E. A. R. Alves (Recreio)	6	2	4
J. Odell and M. Talan (J.R.C.)	6	2	4
C. F. Chiu and P. C. Leung (Chung Wah)	3	1	2
S. C. Liang and K. F. Chiu (Chung Wah)	3	0	3
S. P. Chan and W. C. Chung (King's)	3	0	3
C. F. Chiu and W. H. Choy (Chung Wah)	3	0	3
E. A. R. Alves and B. T. Gosano (Recreio)	3	0	3
E. Zimmermann and D. Hazell (K.C.C.)	3	0	3
D. Hazell and A. E. P. Guest (K.C.C.)	6	3	3
D. Kwok and E. Kennard (St. John's)	6	3	3
H. T. Woo and K. L. Lui (King's)	6	3	3
A. E. P. Guest and E. Zimmermann (K.C.C.)	6	3	3
J. L. Anderson and D. Hazell (K.C.C.)	3	1	2
H. S. Jones and A. E. P. Guest (K.C.C.)	3	1	2
F. H. Kwok and R. E. Lee (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
F. H. Kwok and J. Chan (Kowloon Tong)	6	3	3
R. E. Lee and K. M. Lee (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
S. C. Chan and Lee Po (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
F. S. Li and S. C. Liang (Chung Wah)	3	1	2
R. E. Lee and P. C. Fletcher (Kowloon Tong)	3	1	2
K. L. Lui and J. Pau (King's)	3	1	2
K. H. Lo and W. C. Chung (King's)	3	1	2
N. Whitley and N. L. Smith (St. John's)	3	1	2
W. H. Choy and S. F. Lee (Chung Wah)	6	3	3
S. T. Chan and S. C. Chan (Kowloon Tong)	6	4	2
A. Basile and M. M. de V. Soares (V.R.C.)	12	10	2

Tsang, Anderson And F.H. Kwok Play Very Well

By "Adrem"

CHINESE Y.M.C.A. suffered another crushing defeat on Monday, in "A" Division of the Badminton League, going down to University "B" by 3-6. This was the second time this season that "Y" had failed against the junior undergraduate team.

Chinese "Y" were at home and had out their strongest team but they were never in the picture, each pair being only able to win a game apiece.

University proved very well-balanced and this was the main factor in their success. "Y" have won only one match to date, a 6-3 victory over Recreio, and they now appear to be strong contenders for the wooden spoon. It will be recalled that last year, with practically the same team, they lost a play-off for the championship with University "A".

K.C.C. Save Their Bacon!

In one of the most exciting and gruelling matches seen in either section of the League this season, Kowloon Cricket Club, fighting to the last ditch, snatched two points from lowly-placed Kowloon Tong on the last game of the evening which provided A. E. P. Guest and E. Zimmermann, who were far from impressive in their first two games, with their only success of the evening.

Many of the games were long drawn-out affairs and in at least four of them, an opposite result would not have been altogether against the run of play.

One of the finest, from a technical point of view, was the eighth game of the evening, in which P. Wynter-Blyth and A. L. Fisher dropped their second game of the season. Their conquerors were Joseph Tsang and Peter Lo, whose form in their first two games had

suggested nothing that might indicate such a big upset. Tsang, however, gave a marvellous display and his smashing and quick coverage of court, combined with Lo's steadiness and ability to maintain a rally until Tsang had an opportunity of killing, gave the Kowloon Tong pair a brilliant win. There was never very much difference in the scores, the K.C.C. pair securing most of their points through concentrating on Lo and waiting for his loose returns to tuck away.

Fisher was very steady and placed very well, but Wynter-Blyth was rather erratic and later lost his smash.

K. Tong Setback

Kowloon Tong suffered a setback in the first game of the evening when Tsang and Lo went down to Anderson and Jones after a ding-dong struggle. Mackay and Lee were then annihilated by Fisher and Wynter-Blyth, but Kwok and Chan redeemed the situation somewhat when they scored a good win over Guest and Zimmermann, Kwok playing a fine game and almost raising the standard of his partner to his own level.

In the second round Mackay and Lee, after securing a lead of 11-4, only just scraped home against Jones and Anderson after service had changed hands three

times without addition when the scores were set at 4-all; Kwok and Chan gave another fine display and forced Wynter-Blyth and Fisher all the way. At one stage near the end it appeared possible that Kwok's tenacity and fine placements would carry them through but the K.C.C. pair, who for some reason hitherto had not bothered to smash, rallied well and went out at 21-18.

Guest's Unavailing Effort

Evidently stiff and cold after waiting through four games, Lo and Tsang were very unimpressive against Guest and Zimmermann but the last-named was playing so badly that despite the efforts of Guest, Kowloon Tong won the game to make the game score 3-11.

The last round was one of surprises. After their fine performance against Wynter-Blyth and Fisher, it was expected that Kwok and Chan would have a very good chance against Anderson and Jones, but Anderson was taking no chances and he completely dominated the court, smashing with fury and withal playing his drops with great delicacy. Kowloon Tong could produce no counter to the concentrated attack and K.C.C. were once again in the lead at 4-3.

Then came that epic game between Lo and Tsang, and Fisher and Wynter-Blyth which placed Kowloon Tong on level terms once again.

Rise To Occasion

Having regard to their poor performances, it was not expected that Guest and Zimmermann would beat Lee and Mackay, especially as the latter pair, against Anderson and Jones, had shown such improvement. The K.C.C. players rose to the occasion in great style, however, and running away with a long lead, won easily to give K.C.C. a win, which at that stage, must be regarded as unexpected.

K.C.C. have not the balance of a championship team but they are great fighters. With all their players on form, they are capable of beating the strongest combinations,

and if they do not win the title it will certainly not be for want of trying.

Other Matches

Other matches went as expected although Police, up against a disorganised St. John's team, did well to secure three games.

Although undergoing a long string of defeats, Police might do well to remember K.C.C., now at the top of the table with an unbeaten record, who went through much the same experience last year as Police are undergoing now.

Jackie Odell and M. Talan played very well against King's and can be well satisfied with winning two games, but the remainder of the Jewish R.C. team were outclassed and apart from a great fight by Godkin and Ramler against Chung and Lo, offered little resistance.

In a match on Tuesday, Chung Wah had little difficulty against V.R.C. and won for the loss of only one game.



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ARMY SPORTLIGHT

MIDDLESEX HOCKEY CHALLENGE TO ARMY

By "Squaddy"

AT SHAMSHUIPO ON Tuesday, Middlesex Regiment added another fine win to their unbeaten record in the Large Units Hockey League by defeating 5th. A.A. Regt., R.A., to the tune of nine goals to nil, after being four goals in the lead at the interval.

The goals were scored by L/Cpl Bright (5), Pte Sheehan (2), Bds Hymas, and L/Cpl Moggeridge.

Although heavily beaten the Gunners were in no way disgraced. The Middlesex, whose combination at times was absolutely outstanding, played brilliant hockey and it would have taken a very good team to have stood up to them onslaught.

L/Cpl Bright, of soccer fame, had a wonderful on day, and whenever in position in front of goal, there was no stopping him. He well deserved the five goals which he scored.

Bds. Hymas also played a remarkable game, being the best player on the field; his fine ball control kept the Gunners' defenders well on the run.

Pte. Stickley, who only a few days ago returned to the Middlesex side, played a hard game in defence and his hard and accurate hitting helped his forwards on many occasions.

Sgt. Crowley, who in past seasons has played for the Army, is still as good as ever and gave an excellent display at centre-half.

Pte. Sheehan proved a fine inside-left and worked well with Bright in the middle. He has a keen eye for the ball and is very safe with his stick.

On Sunday, at Shamshuiipo, the Middlesex will play the 2/14th Punjab Regt. in this League, half-time 10.30 a.m.

It is not an overstatement to say of the Middlesex that they have one of, if not the strongest, European sides in the Colony, and, to prove their worth, I understand that they have challenged the Army (British Ranks) to a match in the near future, which should be an interesting game to watch.

At least three or four of their players should be in the Army side or given a trial.

"H.Q." Company of the Middlesex have a very strong team in the Small Units League and have reached the semi-final of this competition, where they will meet 22nd Coy., R.E.

In this competition they have not had a goal scored against them... and all their matches have been played away from home!

* * *

BOXING

WEDNESDAY evening at Shamshuiipo a very entertaining performance was given by the Middlesex Regiment and the Combined Royal Artillery in the semi-finals of the Command Novices Team boxing competition, the former winning 24 points to 16.

The Gunners were unfortunate in that four of their team failed to turn up, but they would have had to win all four of these fights to enter the final!

Best fight of the evening was between Pte. Macey of the Middlesex and Gnr. Agar. Both men fought hard throughout the three rounds and were congratulated at the end of the fight by the referee on their gallant performance.

The last fight of the evening was also a good one, Pte. Byford of Middlesex giving a fine exhibition of boxing. On this performance he should make a fine third welterweight string for the Middlesex opens.

Pte. Hogan, Middlesex, beat Gnr. Baker on a T.K.O. in the

Light Heavyweight—Pte. Cooper (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Pridmore (R.A.).

Heavyweight—L/C. Smith (Middlesex) beat L/Bdr. Dooley (R.A.).

Welterweight—Pte. Byford (Middlesex) beat Gnr. Campbell (R.A.).

SNOOKER

IN the Garrison Snooker League, Royal Army Medical Corps are leading by four points from the Royal Engineers Sergeants.

At a meeting of the Garrison Snooker Committee held in the Soldiers' Club at the beginning of the week, a proposal was made by S/Sgt. Megson, R.E., that one League point should be allotted to each "frame" won only, the total aggregate to have no bearing on the final result whatsoever, i.e., if both teams playing won three games each, they would be awarded three points each in the League table.

This proposal was agreed upon by all present, and will be incorporated in the relevant rules.

Results and League positions to date:

R.A.P.C. beat Signals "A" 4-2
R.A.M.C. beat Signals Cpls. 6-0
C.M. Police drew R.E. "A" 3-3
R.A.M.C. drew C.M. Police 3-3
R.A. Stanley drew R.E. Sergeants 3-3

R.E. "A" drew R.E. Sergeants	3-3
R.A. Stanley beat Signals "A"	4-2
R.A.P.C. lost to Signals Cpls.	1-5
	P. W. L. D. Pts.
R.A.M.C.	3 2 0 1 15
R.E. Sergeants	3 1 0 2 11
R.A. Stanley	3 1 0 2 10
C.M. Police	3 0 0 0 9
R.E. "A"	3 0 0 3 9
Signals Cpls.	3 1 1 1 8
R.A.P.C.	3 1 2 0 6
Signals "A"	3 0 3 0 4

On Sunday R.A.M.C. played Kowloon Police in a return snooker match and avenged their previous defeat by a comfortable margin. The match was played at the R.A.M.C. Mess.

R.A.M.C. 667 points
Kowloon Police 522 points

RUGBY FOOTBALL

AT Sookunpoo on Tuesday, Royal Scots were surprised by Combined Royal Artillery in the Large Units Rugby League, and were beaten by 12 points to 8.

Royal Engineers had another win over the Combined Small Units.

The Large Units League Table to date is:

	P. W. L. D. Pts.
Royal Engineers	2 2 0 0 4
Royal Artillery	3 2 1 0 4
Royal Scots	2 1 1 0 2
Middlesex	2 1 1 0 2
C.S. Units	3 0 3 0 0

In a friendly match with the Hong Kong Club at Happy Valley

on Wednesday, Middlesex Regiment drew, each side scoring one try.
Sgt. Burrell scored the Middlesex try.

* * *

ASSOCIATION

FOOTBALL

ROYAL Army Service Corps are still winning in Second Division of the League, and at Sookunpoo on Wednesday they defeated the strong Engineers eleven by three goals to one.

This places them in a very good position, with the Sappers now only one point in the lead, but one game in hand.

This is the first defeat that the Engineers have suffered this season in League football, and the second in all football this year.

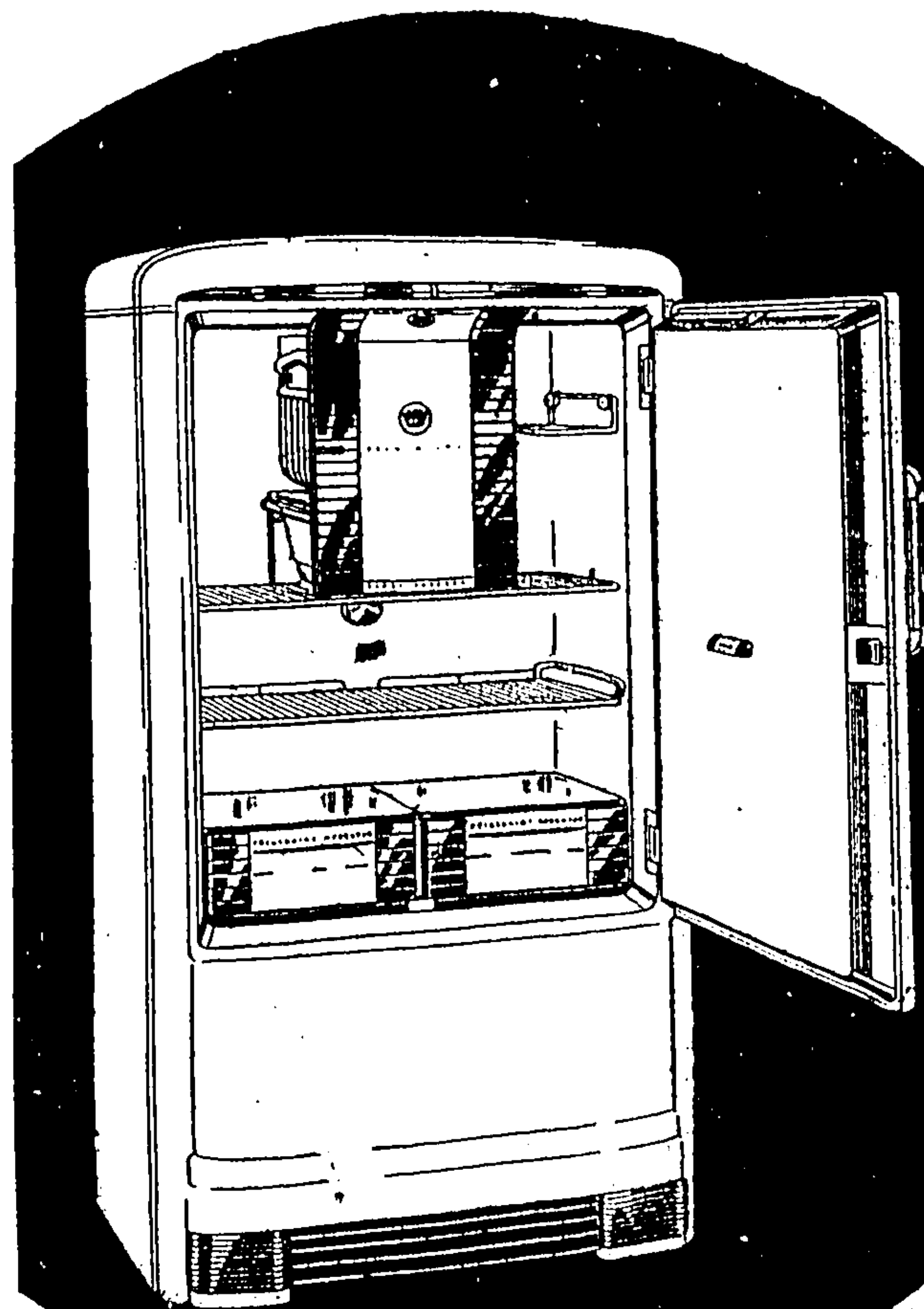
They were knocked out of the Junior Shield by 36th R.A. in the last round.

Service Corps now only need another six goals to equal the goal-scoring record of 96 goals. Their goal average is now 90 goals for and 29 against, and they still have another six games to play. On current form they should easily secure the necessary seven goals.

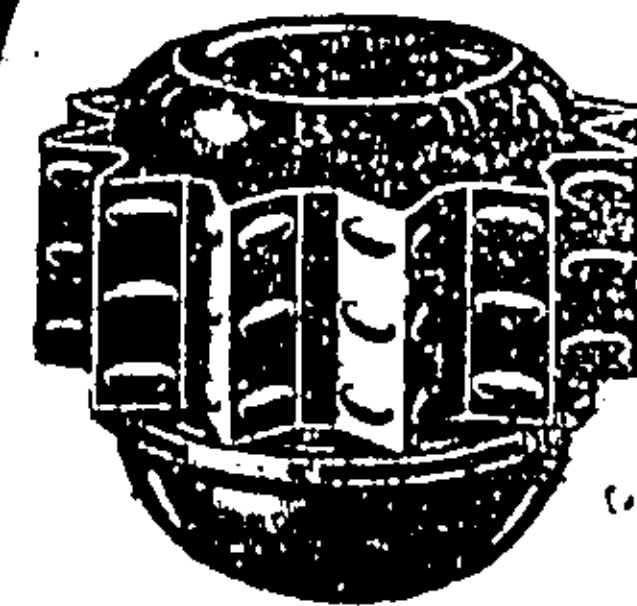
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CROSS COUNTRY

ON Monday, February 24, Middlesex Regt. will compete against Combined Small Units in a cross country run, which will start and finish at the European Y.M.C.A. Kowloon. The course will be between five and six miles, and this run is to enable both units to select their final team for the annual cross country run which takes place on March 4.



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SERIOUS VIEW TAKEN OF FAR EAST OUTLOOK

But Moment Of Crisis Held Not To Be Immediate

(By Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent)

CHINESE WANT H.K. CONSULATE

Reports that Britain has agreed to the establishment of a Chinese consulate in Hong Kong are premature, Reuter learns from authoritative sources in Chungking.

The influential daily, "Ta Kung Pao," published a report that Britain has agreed to the establishment of a consulate in the Crown Colony.

IT IS LEARNED HOWEVER, THAT WHILE THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES HAVE APPLIED TO THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES FOR PERMISSION THE MATTER IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION AND NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN REACHED.

It is believed in Chungking that there is a good possibility of Britain agreeing to the suggestion. — Reuter.

A SERIOUS VIEW is taken in London of the position in the Pacific, especially after the Australian Ministers' warning of the situation in the Far East.

Australian reaction to the warning of serious developments has given much satisfaction in London, while the American attitude is also all to the good.

In Allied circles in London which are usually well-informed it is felt that the moment of crisis is not immediate.

It is pointed out that in view of the fact that negotiations between Indo-China and Thailand are proceeding and the armistice has just been prolonged another fortnight, it is unlikely Japan would take any immediate action.

Also, although there has been talk of negotiations with Russia, Japan has not yet reached any agreement that would guarantee her rear if she were to undertake any adventurous operation to the south. — Reuter.

Danger Admitted In London

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") That there is a danger that Ja-

pan may intervene on the side of Germany and Italy was admitted yesterday by authoritative quarters in London.

Informed circles in London say that the Japanese Foreign Minister's speeches in public and in private during the last three or four days have been "tougher."

There is every sign that Japanese extremists are taking control of Government affairs in Tokyo.

Meanwhile, the British Government has left Japan no doubt of her attitude and reminded her of the fate which has overtaken the countries under German pressure.

British quarters in London still hope that liberal influences will prevent Japan from taking such a step. — International News Service.

Sir Robert Craigie Sees Matsuoka

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") It is reported that Sir Robert Craigie, British Ambassador in Tokyo, has warned Mr. Matsuoka against any rash action by Japan in the southern Pacific at the instance of Germany.

Observers in Tokyo remarked that the warning of the gravity of the situation by the Australian War Council was issued at about the same time as Sir John Latham, the Australian Minister in Tokyo, was calling at the Japanese Foreign Office. — International News Agency.

Australia Sees Big Spring Offensive

The significant statement made by the Australian War Council was carried in all the newspapers in Australian cities and all editions were bought up though the temper of the Australians had been prepared for the news when, after Wednesday's meeting of the War Council, Mr. Fadden issued a warning to the nation as follows: "We find ourselves in hostile action near, if not on, our coastline. It is not an inevitable danger — far from it — but it is real and we must pay serious regard to it."

Mr. Curtin, the labour leader, in a separate statement, said that the country should take these steps to safeguard itself because it was the great supplier of foodstuffs, munitions and equipment for the Empire forces and because it was recognised as the chief reinforcement for the fighting strength in the future conduct of the war.

Mr. Curtin added that the Axis method is to attack at many points and the new phase of the conflict may involve Australia.

"From that springs to-day the danger to us," he said. "Our immediate future holds great possibilities. Our enemies are preparing a huge offensive which will be launched against us in the first weeks of the spring."

"As a nation in the Pacific Australia only desires peace. The possibility of an attack against us has long been foreseen and preparations have been made in our defence measures."

"These preparations were not only for defence but in order to see that Australia should utilise

FRANCO REFUSES TO AID

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

It was learned in Vichy last night that General Franco has refused to grant Spanish assistance for an attack against Gibraltar, despite very strong pressure from Mussolini.

It is reported that Mussolini promised every Italian favour to Spain and besought General Franco to pay off now by providing bases and aid for an Axis attack.

In spite of strong pressure General Franco is said to have refused, explaining that Spain cannot risk war with England, which is aiding Spain with food. — International News Service.

Spain's Debt

Mussolini mentioned all past favours by Italy to Spain and besought General Franco to pay off the debt by providing bases for an attack but General Franco refused.

General Franco explained that starving Spain could not risk war with England while England was helping her with food.

To this Mussolini promised that "Europe would feed Spain," but General Franco was adamant.

Mussolini stressed the need for bases at Cartagena, Minorca and the Canary Islands. — Reuter.

Events Moving Swiftly

(Continued from Page 1) Russian offer to conclude a non-aggression pact with Bulgaria.

Soviet Fleet

Other reports allege that the Soviet Fleet in the Black Sea has been concentrated and that a powerful Red Army is deployed along the Rumanian border.

Speculation on the Russian attitude has been modified by statements attributed to Soviet circles in London, that Hitler would not move into Bulgaria without consulting Moscow, and that no consultations have taken place.

It is pointed out, however, that Hitler would be unlikely to show his hand in Bulgaria unless he had sound reason to believe that he could proceed without rousing Russia to interference.

German troop movements into Rumania continue and a force of several divisions is reported to be ready to move into Bulgaria.

Egypt's Action

The Egyptian Government, meantime, has followed the British example and severed diplomatic relations with Rumania. Members of the Egyptian Legation are expected to leave Bucharest to-morrow.

Turkey is keeping a close watch on all developments and shows no sign of being overawed by the apparent threat of imminent German action.

The Chinese Ambassador to Turkey has arrived in Sofia "to investigate the Axis strength and influence in the Balkans."

STOP PRESS

General Sumita, accompanied by members of the Japanese mediation commission, paid a courtesy call on the Thai Premier with a view to improving the understanding regarding the lines occupied by Thai troops in accordance with the truce agreement.

General Sumita later left for Saigon by plane. An escort of ten Thai planes saw him off. — Reuter.

to the full her manpower and industrial war material."

Malaya Prepared

The whole of Malaya is reported to be ready for attack from any quarter.

Substantial reinforcements have arrived for all armies in the Far East.

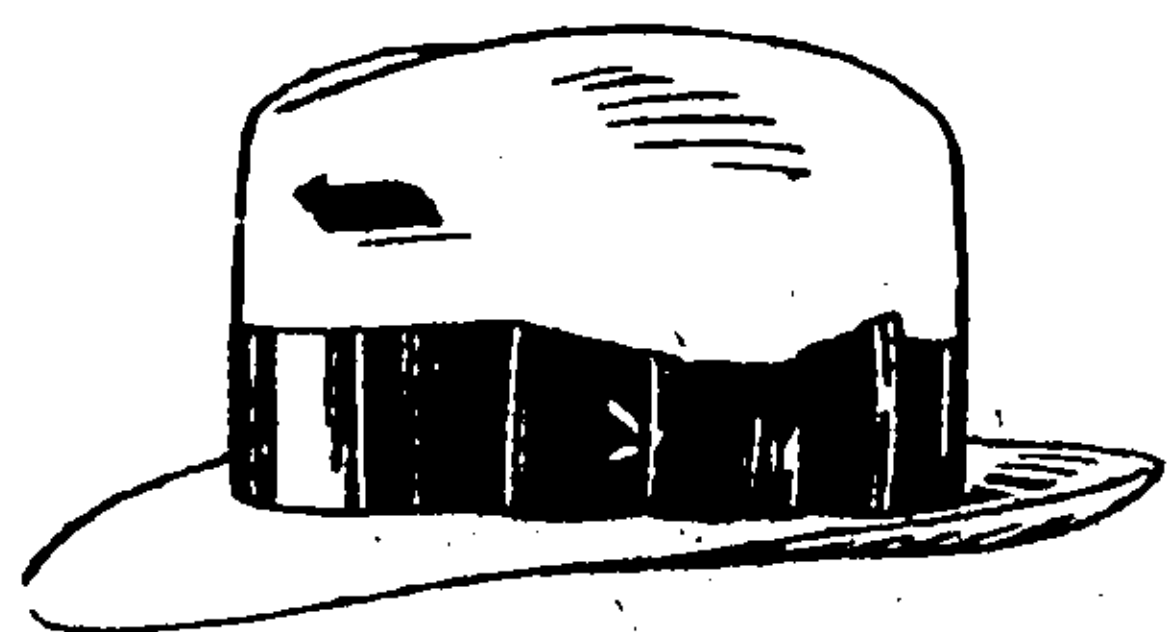
Since Sir Robert Brooke-Popham took over command he has brought about important and far-reaching changes.

Quarantine restrictions imposed by Canton against arrivals from Hong Kong on account of cholera have been removed.

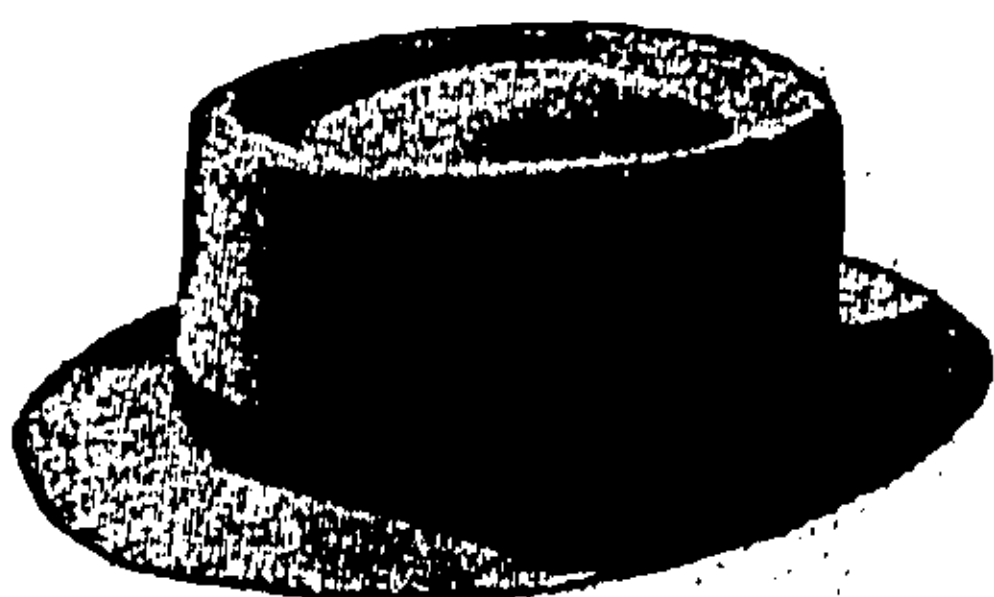


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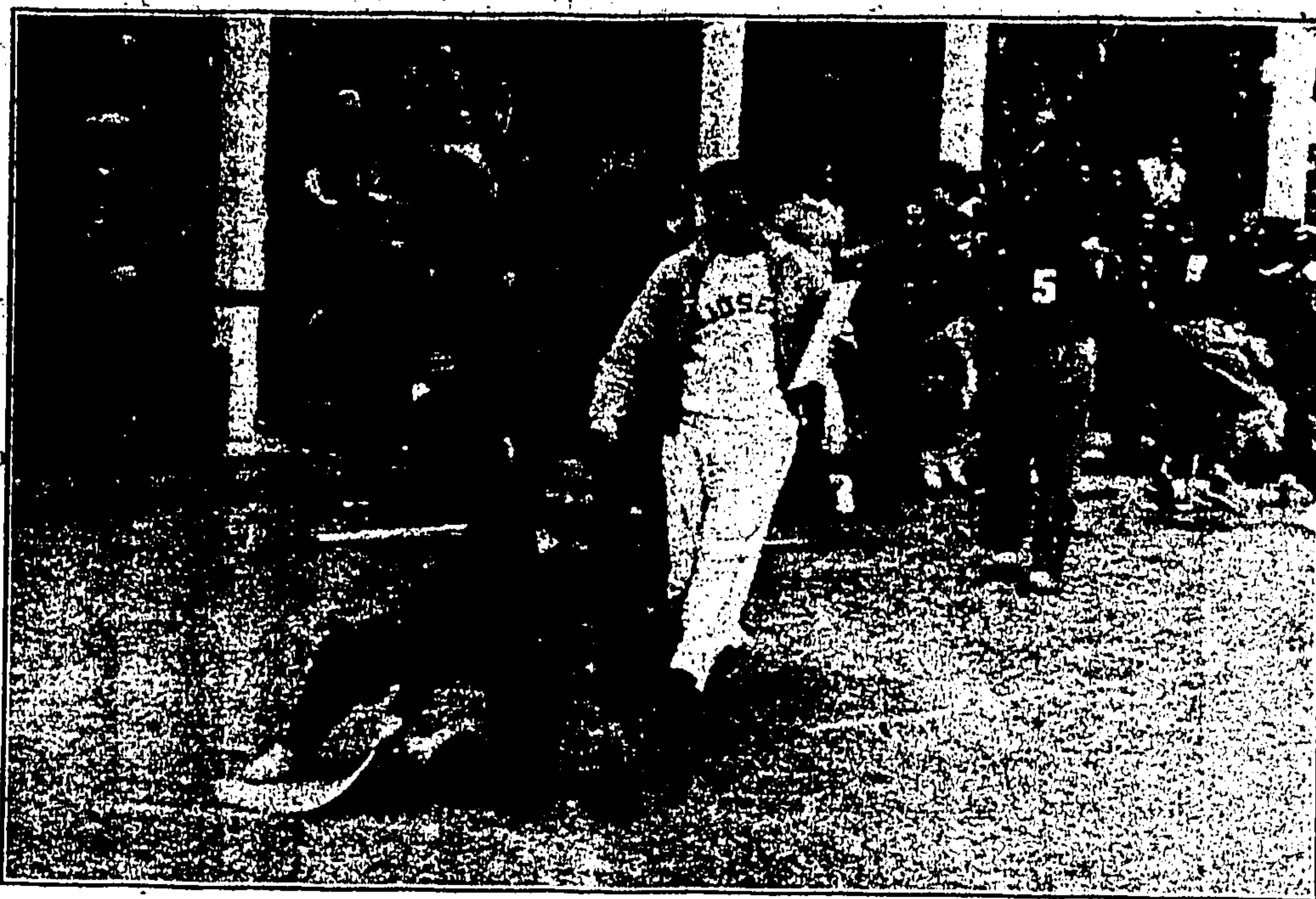
THE CHINA MAIL

FRIDAY SUPPLEMENT, HONG KONG, FEBRUARY 14, 1941.

Softball Needle Match



A heated debate on a point of law in the softball "needle" match between the Wahoes and the Canuckettes on Sunday. The Canadians won 8-5, but there was much criticism of umpire decisions.



Miss J. Anderson (Wahoes) sends her team into raptures by smashing out a home run. Here Miss Anderson is seen at the home plate, and her team-mates jumping with enthusiasm. Miss Anderson after injured an arm and will be out of the game for some weeks.



The large crowd which watched Sunday's softball encounters at the Kowloon Football Club ground.



(Left) — The King and Queen recently visited the North-east coast and viewed the defences, air-raid damage, and an aircraft factory. During their visit they also met Mrs. Cardwell the woman who captured a German airman single handed and presented her with the Medal of the Order of the British Empire. Photo shows the Queen talking to people who lived in the damaged house. (Copyright, Fox).



The team sent from Macao to play Eastern on Tuesday. The Hong Kong team was too powerful for the visitors and won 3-1.



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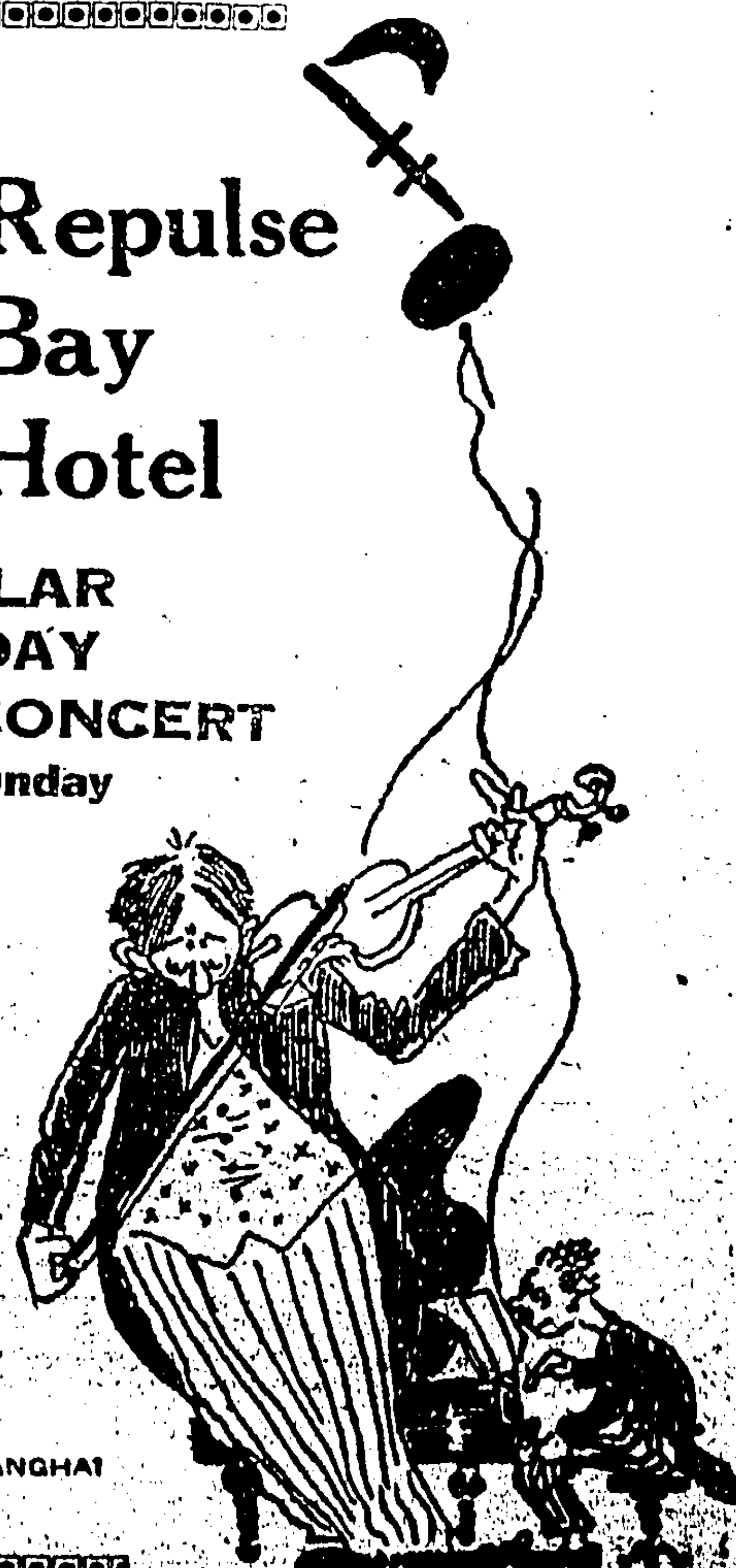
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THE RAT By Leonard R. Gribble

SWINGING a pick in a Dartmoor quarry, grey-clad Convict 09166 counted the months ahead. Tramping the cobbled confines of the prison yard under a lowering sky he counted the weeks. Standing braced against the scarred wall of his cell he counted the days.

Months . . . weeks . . . days. The dead-march of Time caught up with him at last.

He stood before the Governor and was told officially that he was a man again. The well-meant advice, the carefully chosen words, elicited no response from him, brought no answering gleam to the opaque glaze of his eyes. Something had died in Convict 09166, it did not quicken when Bert Tallent walked from the prison gates, free after nearly three years, the sound of numberless feet shuffling in concert no longer in his ears.

"Hey, there, Bert!" He saw his brother Jack seated behind the wheel of an old car.

"Hello, Jack!" He spoke in a whisper, out of the side of his mouth, without realising it. As the car moved off he added, "How're things?" in the same soft tone.

"Oh, all right. I wrote you."

"Yeah, I know. Everything in Hexton's fine. You're still at the garage getting four quid a week, the old man's still on his feet. I knew, but Connie—what about her?"

Lads drew down over the opaque eyes, the brown hand tics knotted, Jack Tallent threw a side-glance at his brother and tried to keep his voice casual.

"Connie? She's fine. Got a job with Bob Studds, the bookie. Office work. Not bad pay, Connie's all right."

"Yeah, Connie's all right." It

was the low-uttered prayer of a man who had believed, and whose belief had been truly founded.

Jack Tallent stared straight ahead.

"What you going to do now, Bert?"

"Stop with the old man for a few days, then come back to the lodgings."

"I know. Of course. That's right." The car swerved without apparent reason. "But what you going to do?"

Bert Tallent smiled. His teeth were strong, white, rooted in healthy bone. "First thing I'm doing," he said slowly, "is getting even with a rat."

The man and the girl sat at a secluded table in the frowzy restaurant. Across the near-white table-cover their glances met and clashed. Round grey eyes lighting a face somewhat too plump to be termed an oval, crowned with brassy tortured ringlets, challenged the black-brown, deepest eyes assessing her with rodent scrutiny.

"You and me—that was a mistake, Sam. I found it out. It was nothing." She caught her breath as she raised a cigarette to her carmined lips. "But Bert's out, been out about a week and hasn't come near me. You've got to tell him the truth. You've got to," she repeated, natural colour deepening the shade of her cheeks.

A lean, not particularly clean hand smoothed the man's lacquered hair. The thin nose dominating his back teeth wrinkled as he grinned.

"Listen, Connie," he said, "don't get me wrong. I got nothing against Bert."

"No?" she said. "Well, there's been plenty of talk about you shopping him. He wasn't in on that Camden Town job, and some-

body spoke out of turn to the cops. Bert was framed."

The man shrugged his shoulders, hunching them about his ears.

"He was shipped, but that don't mean I knew anything about it, Connie." His speculative eyes took in the girl's features, her figure, her clothes. "Now look, Bert's going back to his brother's lodgings to-night—"

"How do you know that?" she flashed.

His grin became a leer, cunning, deceptive.

"Never mind. I know. I make it my business to know things—plenty of things. It's useful in all sorts of ways."

"Yes, the cops pay their harks—"

A hand like a paw gripped her wrist. "Drop that stuff, d'you hear?" he growled, throwing a furtive glance over a padded shoulder. The hand drew back. "Listen, you want to square things with Bert. All right, go to him to-night, before he gets to hearings things—see? Put him right."

The rodent eyes shone with meaning. The girl dropped the butt of her cigarette in the dregs of her coffee-cup.

"Right for you, you mean, Sam Apps."

She was understanding this man as she had never understood him before. Something like shame seared her mind. What in God's name had she ever seen in him, with his oily head, yellow teeth, and wasp-waisted clothes? She asked herself, and mentally shuddered.

"Right for us, Connie." His head jutted forward, his lips moist, bulging. "Bert will listen to you. He wouldn't raise his hand to a

woman."

"You can explain. Everything," he added after a pause.

"Then you won't—"

He shook his head.

"I know Bert Tallent. He'll be putty in your hands, Connie. He's only been out a few days, playing good boy while the coppers watch him. For two years and seven months he hasn't seen a woman—hasn't held a woman. See? You do as I say, and everything will be all right."

Loathing crept into her face. She knew now what he wanted her to do, throw herself back at Bert in order to save himself. He was afraid. Like a rat in a corner faced by a terrier. But there was something more than fear in his eyes, something she couldn't fathom, something that made her afraid—for herself, for Bert. Her mind rocked in turmoil, trying to clarify fused thought. She would have got up, but he pushed her back into her seat.

"Wait, Connie," he said, showing his teeth again. "I'm a pal. I like you. I want to see you fixed right." He took a black seal wallet from his pocket, drew out a crisp white piece of paper. "Here. Your savings. Don't forget that touch. And he'll want money. Jobs won't be easy for a bit. You want to help him, don't you? You don't want him going about without money in his pocket. He'll want clothes, cigarettes, to take you to the pictures. You know. Well, be sensible. Make an impression. Show him you've got a head on your shoulders."

The piece of white paper was a £20 note.

"But—"

"But nothing." He pressed the note into her hand. "Don't be a fool, and I'm your friend. Go there, see him before his brother comes home from the garage. Get him alone. Make him take that money at once. That'll stop him thinking what you don't want him to think. You're smart. You're no fool, Connie. Do as I say, and everything will be all right—for both of us."

He made that last part sound a concession to her. She couldn't think. Not with his eyes glittering at her, little round shiny specks, like old-fashioned boot-buttons. He pushed back his chair rose.

"Come on, Connie. Just do as I say. I know how it'll work out."

Suddenly her mind cleared, and she saw things distinctly.

"Yes, sure. I know, Sam."

"That's the talk. That's the girl." He laughed, brittle sound without a true note. "Come on." They left the frowzy restaurant together.

Bert Tallent opened the door and a hungry look swept into his face as he saw the girl on the landing.

"Why, Bert, you look fine!"

"I'm all right, Connie."

She came into the room, and he closed the door. As she passed him he caught the fragrance of the perfume she had used. His fists knotted at his sides. Her left hand was bare. Bleakness came to his eyes, robbing them of sight for a moment.

"Where's the ring, Connie?" His voice shook.

"I had to hock it, Bert—honest. You see, you inside. It wasn't easy. People said things. And I had to live. . . ."

"Yes, you had to live," he repeated, thinking of the dun moors, the quarries, a chink of night sky patterned by iron bars.

"Then Bob Studds gave me a job, keeping account, I saved. Bert, look." She took the £20 note from the bag. "It's our start for a new life, Bert. Take it. You can pay me back, later, when you've got something."

He stared at the money in his hands.

"How did you know I would be back here to-night?" he asked levelly.

"Why, a friend of Jack's phoned through—bet this afternoon. He told me. Jack told him. Please, Bert, put the money away."

"Look here, I ain't—"

"Bert!" she pleaded. "Don't make it hard for me—after all this time." She pushed his hand holding the note into his pocket, and raised her red lips invitingly. There was a glow deep in her eyes. He crushed her to him, like a thirsty man seizing a pitcher of water. Now fire flowed in his veins, burning out caution, suspicion, doubt, all save knowledge that she was here, in his arms.

A knock on the door parted them. He opened it. Two men pushed their way inside. There was no need to ask who they were and their business. They were detectives.

"Bert Tallent?" said the taller.

"All right, take it easy. We want to have a look round." He grinned like a cat scenting fresh cream. "May as well start with you yourself."

He grabbed one of Bert's shoulders, pushed a hand into one of his pockets.

"Look here, what the hell—"

"I said take it easy. Couple of nights ago the Harrow Road post office was cleaned out. Well, we ain't had any luck—Hullo!" he broke off, producing the £20 note, and holding it up. His grin widened. "Bull's-eye! You just outside, Tallent, and in your pocket a twenty-quid note. Strange, you know. That post office lost fourteen twenties."

Before he could stop him Bert had whirled away. He caught one of Connie's arms.

"So," he ground out. "It's true—those rumours about you and Sam Apps. He's got you, and got you to fix me again. By God—"

His hand slashed across her face and she fell back. The next moment he was spun round as the second detective jumped him.

In the centre of the room the first detective was staring from the serial number of the note to a list he had produced.

"Hey," he said, "something's wrong! This ain't one of the stolen notes." He turned a frustrated look at his assistant. "That tip we got was—"

Too late, he stopped.

"Come on," he grunted. He went out, followed by the other. The door closed behind them.

Slowly Bert turned an amazed look on the girl. There was a smear of blood on her cheek, but she looked happy. A new radiance illumined her face.

"I knew it was a frame up," she whispered. "The dirty rat." Bert watched her, unable to speak, as she poured forth her story. "And that's what he tried to get me to do, Bert. But I knew why. He was afraid of you. He knew you would get him. Well, I wasn't having you go inside, again for him."

Bert shook his head. Somehow he felt very much like a small boy who has produced the wrong answer for a very simple sum.

"You mean, Connie, all this—"

She laughed joyously. "I've paid for being a fool, Bert, but the last payment's made. I got the account settled for us, not for me or for you. And he—Sam Apps—gave me the idea."

Her laughter rose like a flight of birds.

His manhood marvelled and paid homage. His throat was dry, yet his heart pounded with singing labour. He had struck her, he had lifted his hand against her! Like any man witnessing the enactment of a miracle, he lost the comfort of strength, his mind washed by the flood tide of understanding.

"You mean, Connie—"

She rushed on buoyant, a woman triumphant over self. "I mean, Bert, I saw what his game was—in a flash. At first I didn't. I thought—Never mind what I thought. All of a sudden I knew. I went to Bob Studds, and asked him to change the note. He wanted to know where I got it."

"You told him?" New fear threaded his voice; for her now.

"Of course. The governor's all right. But he's got his own ways of finding things out. He tumbled to that note. Probably knew the numbers of the stolen twenties. Anyway, he offered me fifteen quid for it. I took it, and he grinned. It was a deal both ways. He wants to get his own back on Sam Apps. The fool once twisted him on the 'phone. Placed a bet and didn't show the money. Bob Studds don't forget things like that. And there's other ways Sam Apps has been unpleasant. He's always flush. He's on the inside when information is circulating, but the cops never touch him. That don't look so good. Well, Bob Studds will nail him with that twenty-quid note. The cops will know this time all right. Oh, yes, Bert, there's one rat that will walk into a trap baited with his own bit of cheese."

She was near to hysteria. He saw that now. He stretched out his arms and drew her to him. His lips touched the streak of blood on her cheek. She trembled, and the wildness left her laughter.

"Bert!" she murmured as his lips found hers, claimed them. "God, I've been lonely for you!" Then suddenly she straightened. "Quick, before Solly's pawn-shop shuts."

"Why, what—"

"Don't stand like a goop, Bert. The ring—I want it back. Now, Bert Tallent?" said the taller.

"Why, what—"

"Don't stand like a goop, Bert. The ring—I want it back. Now, Bert Tallent?" said the taller.

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Seeds Of Wrath Sown In Nazi Germany

GERMANY, at the end of its greatest year of military triumph, stands a mighty Tantalus poised for a supreme effort to reach the fruits of victory which still dangle just beyond reach despite its successes on the battlefield.

Seldom in history have armies achieved such quick and sweeping successes. But also seldom before has the enjoyment of victory been so illusive as it has been for this modern Germany which, time and again, has seemed on the verge of realisation of its colossal dream but has still to taste the sweets of conquest.

Doubts of ultimate success, however, scarcely ripple the surface of German confidence, either among the military leaders or the submissive long-suffering civilian mass. For the Reich possesses history's most expertly forged army, unconquered, in fact even unchecked in nine months of amazing campaigning.

Victory Just Out Of Reach

But the year has always seen that ultimate victory snatched away at the last moment and left it still something tempting, something seemingly on the verge of attainment, but something still illusive.

Now with the opening of the new year that Army is moving again in another effort to reach by swift advance the rewards for which Germany and the German people have been sweated and rationed and moulded for eight long years.

They are not to be deprived of it easily. Their offensive power at least on land and in the air is greater than ever before. The weapons hurled into France in the spring have been sharpened by experience, plated by success, weighted by new recruits and six months of intensive industrial production of more arms.

Ready To Strike

The thrust of this Army wherever it goes will be terrific. Its size is such that it could, in theory, strike simultaneously in more than one direction. The maximum force unusable in an attempt against England is undoubtedly poised along Europe's western shores. Other even larger forces are apparently in motion in the direction of Britain's Mediterranean possessions. More are in a position to guarantee the security of Germany's pact of friendship with Russia. Any

number of military possibilities are open to the German High Command.

Out of these possibilities the German engineers of war have selected those which they consider best suited to the aim of breaking England's resistance and bringing the final victory which would give the Nazi Party unchallenged control of two continents and a world position unrivalled since the days of Rome.

Penalties For Failure

But if 1940 has brought the ancient German dream of conquest so near fruition it has also witnessed the emergence of penalties which must be paid for failure.

Before the offensive started every other country in Europe had within itself elements strongly attracted by the concept of the new German order for Europe. Even after the Nazi armies entered these countries strong movements to accept the conquest and collaborate with Germany persisted. But with the passing of the months that receptiveness has been replaced by suspicion, fear, resistance, and hatred.

Seeds Of Wrath Sown

The men and the ideas who have followed in the wake of the conquering armies have caused a revulsion, have in fact sown the seeds of wrath.

Never before has Germany had so few friends.

Hope for its ultimate defeat has swept from the areas under its control out through the world. If those armies ever falter and fall back, Germany will reap the whirlwind of its sowing.

The need to conquer increases as its armies expand their conquest. The knowledge of this drives them on farther afield, silences the moderates within their councils, strengthens the voices of those whose ambitions know the widest horizons.

Need To Conquer Increases

And the need to conquer increases.

The year's swift victories have not seriously depleted Germany's war reserves. The spoils of war have made up much of the ex-

penditures in food and raw material. The German people are eating to-day almost as well as they did last winter, and their leaders have stated that if a time of serious shortage comes the German people will not be the first to suffer.

Yet there is enough change in conditions inside of Germany to hint of coming lacks if the war goes on indefinitely.

The rationing system is being constantly extended to cover more things. Household objects, both

is no apparent undernourishment nor any reason to believe that it exists. But these little things merely serve to remind the thoughtful that in another two or three years it could be different. The downward graph of living standards is gradual and scarcely noticeable from one month to another. But it goes down over the year.

Morale has held up remarkably during the year and is actually better now than at this time last year.

At the end of 1939 there was nothing but the victory in Poland to convince the public that the German Army was superlatively powerful. The easy conquest of France wiped out the serious doubt which clouded the early war months. They have that record of victory to reassure them. And along with this moral factor is the growing fear of what would happen should they lose the war.

The fear of the consequences of hatred developing against them makes the great majority of Germans loyal to the cause of victory regardless of their feelings towards Nazism. So long as they foresee victory they can be expected to support the war effort. The only thing which would seriously undermine morale would be some development which would destroy the confidence in the possibility of victory.

Foundations of Morale

On the other hand, if the expectation of ultimate victory were seriously undermined a deep reaction is conceivable.

Morale is built on the combination of expected victory and fear of consequences of failure, not on basic faith in the righteousness of the cause.

There is a noticeable lack of enthusiasm, of any enduring crusading zeal.

The looming menace of America on the horizon is beginning to trouble them. It is another element driving military policy toward new and early efforts to reach the illusive victory quickly.

As yet the threat is only dimly appreciated by public opinion sheltered by the controlled press from full knowledge of the American trend. Further, the average German has been told that Amer-

ica will aid England only so long as England can pay. He is inclined to believe that America is completely mercenary.

American Aid

One of the severest blows which could be dealt his morale would be an American contribution to England divorced from profits. Should that happen he would begin to believe that America is really sincere in its devotion to the English cause, and that would probably shake him.

But all of these dangers seem remote to a German far behind the lines of his powerful and confident army. Everything that Army has attacked has been conquered or thrown back.

That he knows and feels and that keeps his confidence high despite the gradual encroachment of shortage on his standard of living. The beginning of 1941 finds the average German still believing that the victory he has spent eight years preparing for is still almost within reach.

The Rat

(Continued from Page 2)

to-night!"

His face registered only blank-

ness.

"Don't you see!" she all but

shouted. "Bob Sudds only gave

me fifteen quid for that stolen

twenty. I pawned the ring—our

ring—this evening, to get enough

to make up the twenty. I had to

go through with it, get those cops

mad about being sent on a false

trip. They'll know who tipped

them off—Sam Apps. That won't

do him any good when they find

the right note on him. It'll look

as though he's double-crossing

'em. Now don't you get it? Or

do you want me to sing it to you?"

There was mischief in her face,

devils of laughter in her eyes.

Nothing mattered to her now. She

had attained fulfilment. The empti-

ness of months meant nothing

now. Life was brimming over,

and she held the cup securely in

both hands.

Grimacing, Bert reached for his

cap. He forgot to whisper.

"Think Solly will change a

twenty, Connie?"

She bridled, her rich mouth

dimpling with fun.

"He'll change that one, Bert. I

made him take down the number

when he gave it to me. You see,

I wasn't taking any chances."

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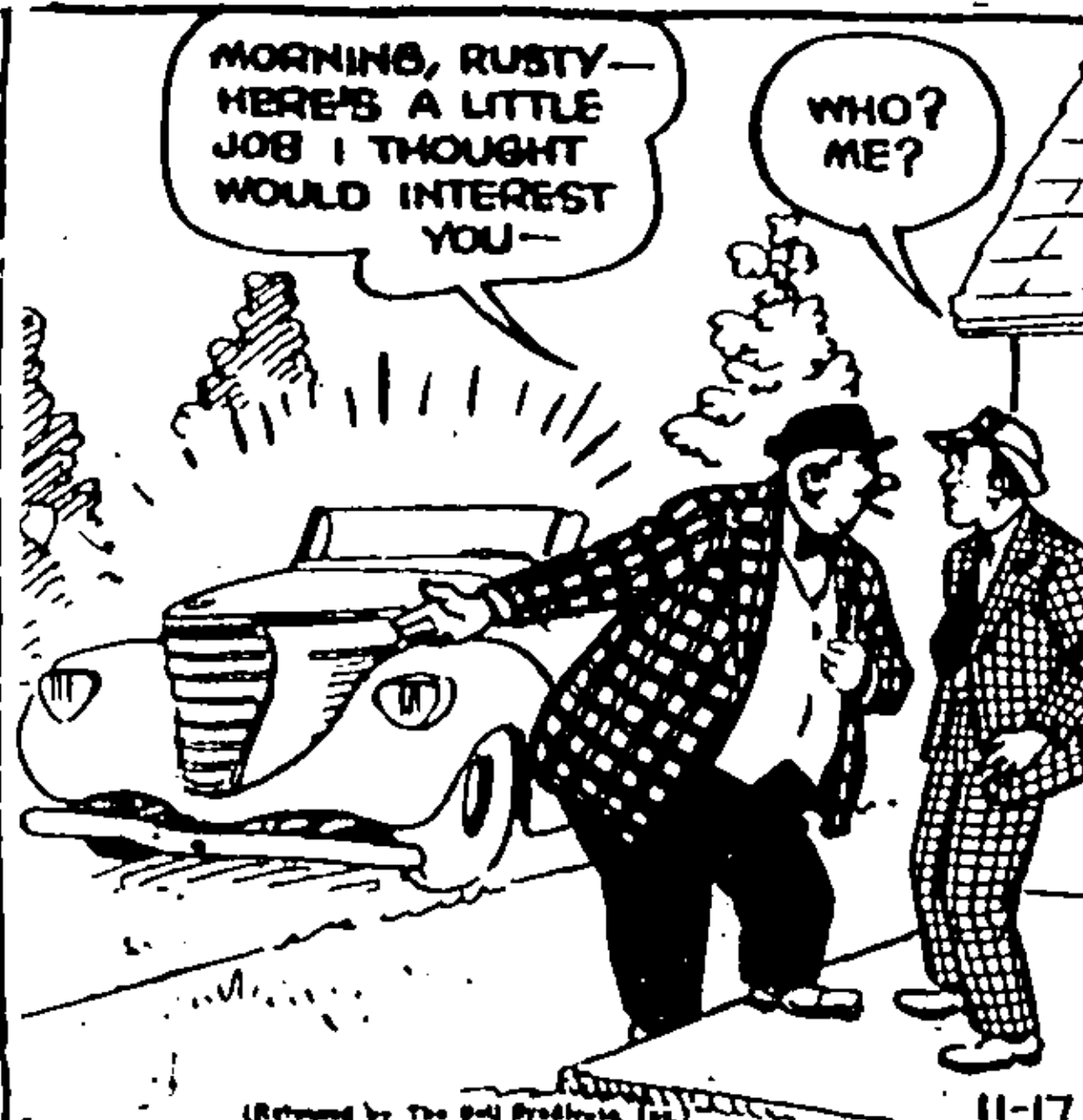
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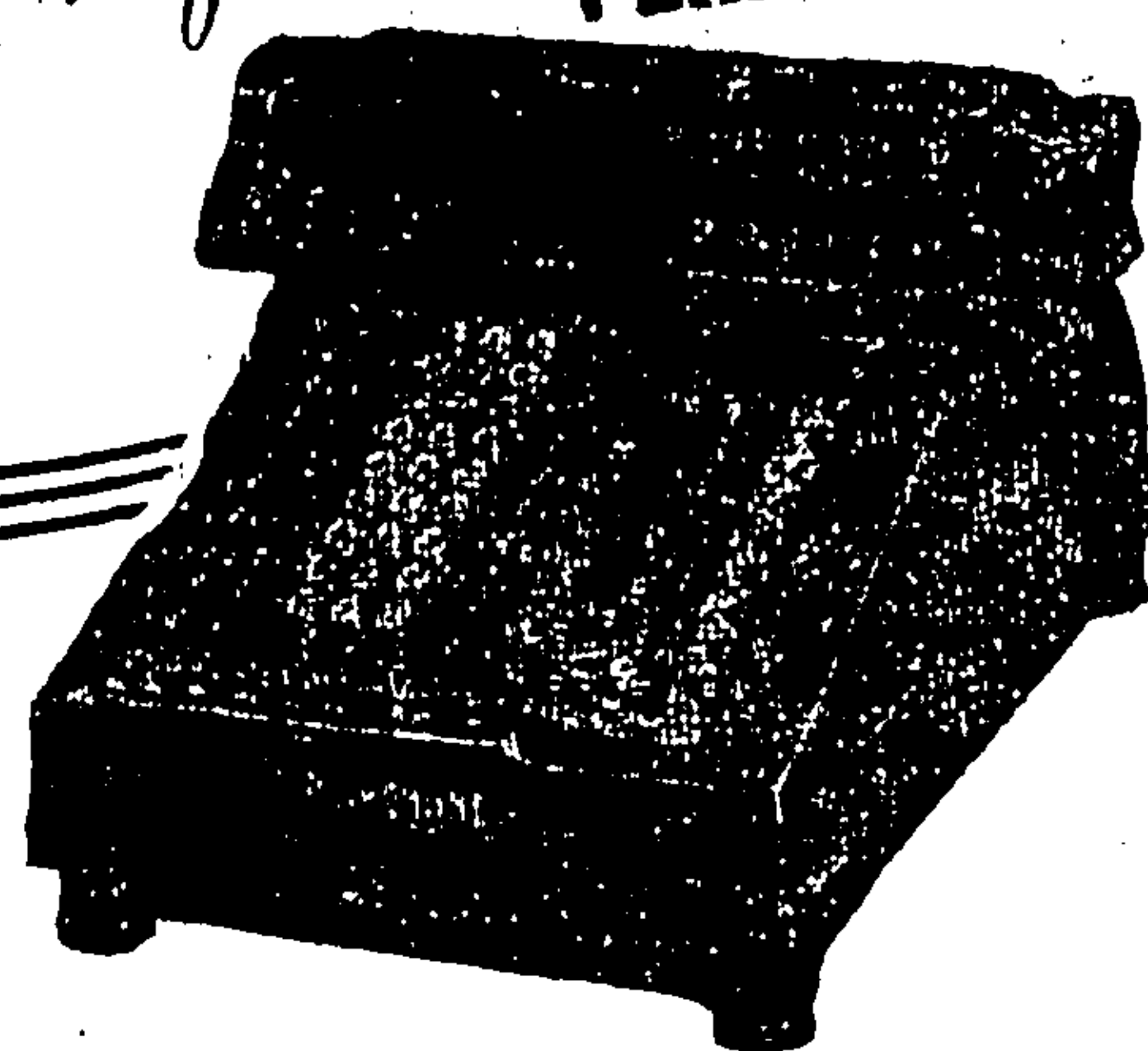
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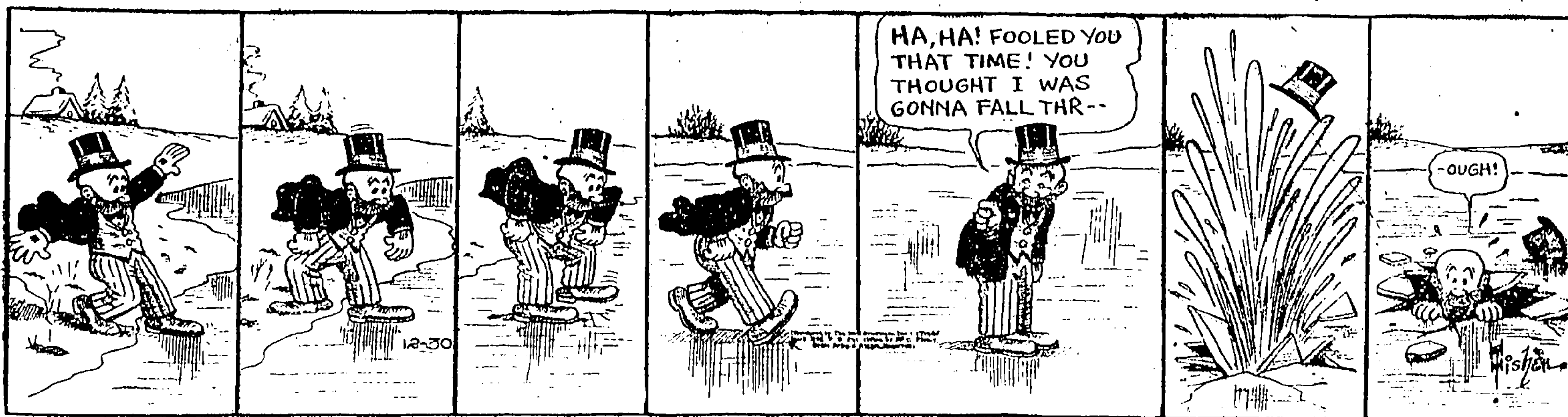
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MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER



A PAGE FOR WOMEN

Eat Iodine Foods For Hair Beauty

Authorities tell us that hair is very dependent upon iodine in the blood stream. If your diet includes sufficient foods containing iodine your hair will keep its beauty and health, and its colour. If too many years of vitamin deficiency has not already robbed it of its colour.

The best source of iodine in food is from fish. Clams, cod liver oil, halibut, lobsters, pure oysters, salmon and shrimp all should be included in your menus. Other fish too contain iodine. The next best source is from goat's milk, iodised salt seaweed powder, kelp and some vegetables and fruits. Barley, green beans, bran, carrots, cherries, corn, loganberries, oats and spinach contain fair amounts of iodine, and surprising as it may seem, sea air furnishes some as you breathe it in. That is why persons who lack iodine usually feel better if they get down near the sea.

Generous amounts of fish should be eaten at least three times a week and your daily menus should contain at least two of the other foods mentioned above.

Your physician will tell you that certain nervous disturbances, specific cases of overweight, lowered mental activity and enlarged thyroid glands are also due, in part at least, to a deficiency of iodine in the blood stream.

Used Also In Shampoo Rinse

If you find your hair pretty lifeless and falling out you might determine if you are lacking iodine. A routine blood test, or metabolism will indicate this. Some doctors prescribe a drop of iodine in one half glass of water daily until enough iodine foods are consumed to meet the deficiency, but your physician will have to be consulted about this treatment.

Of course keeping your scalp meticulously clean and massaged, and your hair well brushed, adds greatly to hair beauty. Most women require a soap shampoo every two weeks, but one every three weeks is sufficient if your scalp is cleansed scientifically with tonic and brushing between shampoos. Some women use several drops of



Joan Leslie counteracts the effect of tight hats and stuffy rooms on her lovely red-gold hair. She takes her hair brush out to the back yard of her home and brushes up and out, from roots to ends, letting it blow in the breeze as she brushes.

iodine in their last rinsing water and feel that it is beautifying to the hair. To two quarts of rinsing water add not more than five or six drops of iodine from a glass dropper. Mix it well before pouring it through the hair.

Proper Diet Essential

We are told repeatedly by medical men and nutritionists that our

physical beauty is most dependent upon a balanced diet. Too few women know the meaning of "a balanced diet" and do not trouble to learn which foods, and in what combinations, the body requires to keep healthy to give beauty to skin, hair, teeth, and eyes.

It would be wise for these women to start a beauty notebook now, writing down that iodine foods assist in keeping hair lovely!

Grow Strongly Beautiful

One wonders how many women could pass a physical examination if all were called to enlist in the service of our country.

Newspapers tell us that an alarming percentage of American young men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-five cannot meet physical requirements. If male youth is so far from being normally healthy I cannot help but wonder about the physical fitness of women.

There are many contributing reasons why this has happened, but it is none the less alarming to find physical unfitness so prevalent in the age group which should be the strongest. Perhaps if man is to be healthy, strong and happy he should be denied those luxuries which we consider essential to our everyday living. And that brings me right to a point.

Women Are Weak Willed

A very stupid social code has weakened many women. I refer

to those "niceties" which are religiously adhered to by fashionable ladies—one must not carry bundles, let the stores deliver them; one must not be seen walking to an appointment, one must arrive in a taxi or a car; one must not open a window or a door, or lift any object of weight if a man is available to lift it; one must not be seen carrying a suitcase if a coolie is about; one must be assisted in and out of buses, cars and taxis by one's escort; one must have an amah for one's child; in fact one must not do anything which would rob one of an expensive, pampered, clinging-vine halo! Such a feminine code is not only unhealthy but it is degenerating!

Meeting A Challenge

When major catastrophies strike we learn how much we can take. Just look at the women in England. Fortunately for them they have never 'softened' quite as much as have Hong Kong women. They now are doing the work of

men—putting in grilling hours of hard work, bearing up under horrifying conditions which we in this country cannot even imagine, and discovering they not only have two reserves of strength but three, four and five.

We must grow strong and by growing strong we will grow more beautiful. The woman who must walk to her appointments, who does carry her bundles, who carries her own bags is better off than her pampered sisters who have grown weak willed and weak in body. Of course there is a limit, but many of us have never begun to tap the energy we have waiting for use.

A wise prophet once horrified a world by loudly stating that war would always be a necessity because man grows weak and ill when he has nothing left to fight for. But there is some truth in his statement—for too many luxuries are crippling, class-consciousness is degrading and unused bodies grow unhealthy. War is a challenge to strength.

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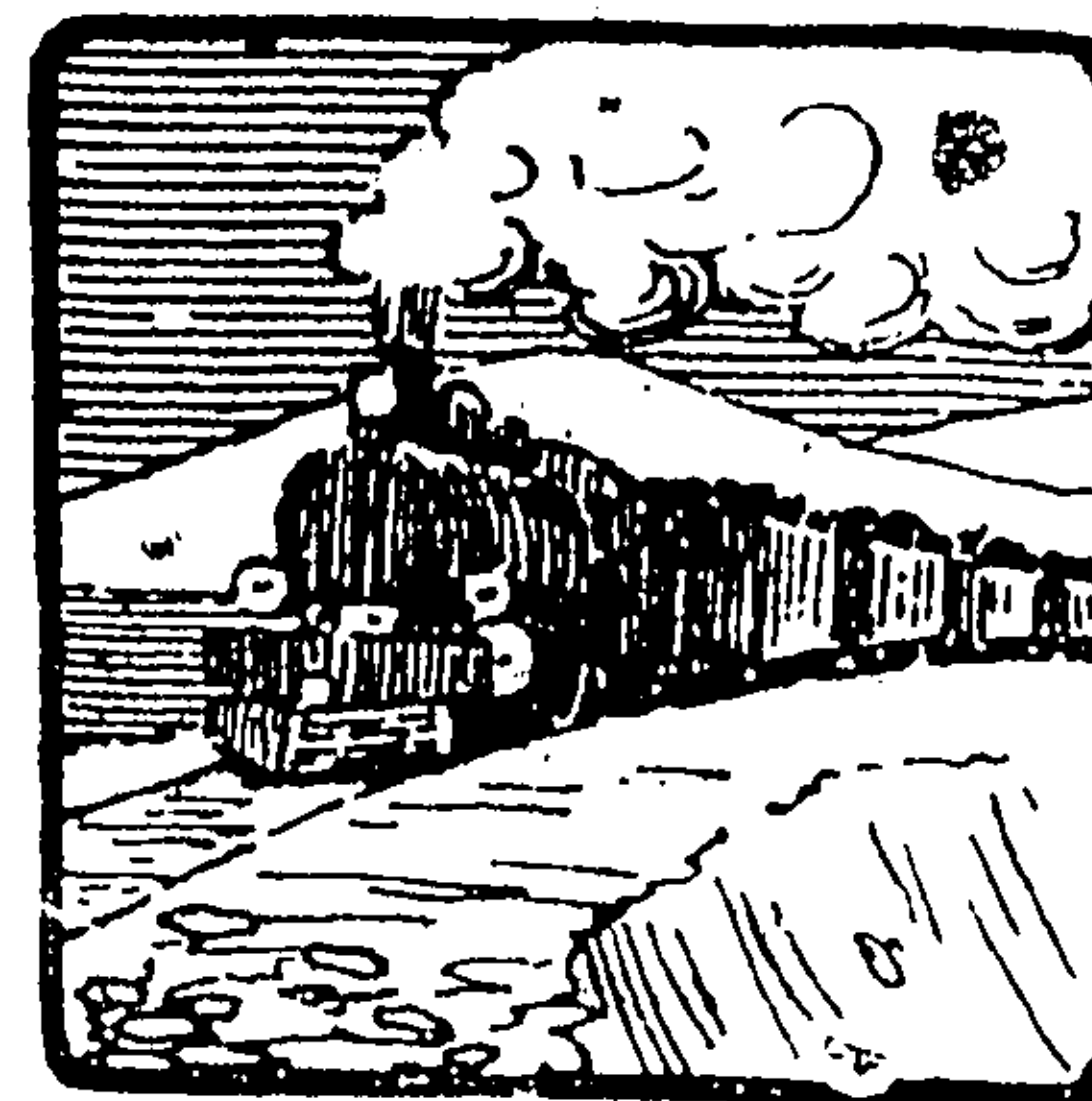
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In The Fields Of Sport



The interport game between a Macao XI and the Eastern F.C. in progress. An Eastern player makes a high jump to clear.



O'Regan (Navy) clearing from Hau Ching-to and Cheung Kam-hoi (Eastern) in the Senior League match on Sunday. Eastern's 2-0 victory put them at the head of the table.



Babies from 10 days to 3 years of age are cared for in this orphanage; bombs struck the sanctuary which is only ten yards away from these babies' dormitory. None of the babies received injuries. Photo shows orphans playing at their tables, with the damaged sanctuary in the background. (Copyright, Fox).



A line-out in the rugby game at Sookunpoo on Saturday last between Combined Volunteers and Combined Services.

(Right)—At this Red Cross convalescent home for soldiers "somewhere in Cheshire" wounded and sick soldiers are now enjoying their convalescence in beautiful surroundings. Photo shows convalescent soldiers admiring the view. (Copyright, Fox).



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